



Ministry
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Youth Justice Board
Bwrdd Cyfiawnder Ieuencid



Youth Justice Statistics 2015/16

England and Wales

Youth Justice Board / Ministry of Justice

Statistics bulletin

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Executive Summary

This publication looks at the Youth Justice System (YJS) in England and Wales for the year ending March 2016 in terms of the number of young people (those aged 10-17) in the system, the offences they committed, the outcomes they received, their demographics and the trends over time. Comparisons are made with data from the previous year (year ending March 2015), and five or 10 years ago.

Overview

The YJS in England and Wales works to prevent offending and reoffending by young people under the age of 18. The system is different to the adult system and is structured to address the needs of young people. The YJS is far smaller in terms of volume of people than the adult system.

The overall number of young people in the YJS continued to reduce in the year ending March 2016. Reductions have been seen in the number cautioned or convicted for the first time (First Time Entrants, FTEs). There have also been reductions in the total number of young people receiving youth cautions and court convictions and in those receiving custodial sentences. Compared with the year ending March 2006, there are now 83% fewer young people who were FTEs, 81% fewer young people who received a youth caution or court conviction¹ and 66% fewer young people in the average custodial population.

For those young people in custody, the rate of assaults and self-harm incidents has increased in the past year, while the rate of use of physical restraint has fallen slightly.

Total numbers of reoffenders and reoffences have also continued to fall (by 15% and 10%, respectively, compared to the previous year), while the 12 month reoffending rate for young people (March 2015 cohort) was 37.9% - stable compared to the previous year, although 4.3 percentage points higher compared to the year ending March 2006.

Arrests and youth cautions

In the year ending March 2016 the police carried out a total of 896,200 arrests in England and Wales, of which 88,600 were of people aged 10-17 years, 10% of the total; this is the same as the proportion of young people in England and Wales in the general population that are of offending age (that is, those aged 10 years or older).

The number of arrests of young people has fallen by 7% compared with the year ending March 2015 and by 75% compared with the year ending March 2006. There have been year on year decreases since arrests peaked in the year ending March 2007.

¹ Based on data from the Police National Computer. A 10 year comparison using data from the Youth Justice Application Framework is not available.

Young people who identified themselves as from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) group accounted for 21,900 (25%) of arrests of young people in the year ending March 2016, with 10,800 (12%) from a Black ethnic group. This compares with 62,600 (71%) for White young people. For the remaining 5% of young people, ethnicity was not stated or unknown.

Females accounted for 14,900 arrests of young people (17% of the total), while males accounted for 73,700 (83% of the total).

In the year ending March 2016, the police issued 18,000 youth cautions (previously reprimands and final warnings). This is a decrease of 17% on the 21,700 given in the previous year, and a decrease of 85% on the 122,300 given in the year ending March 2006.

First Time Entrants (FTEs)

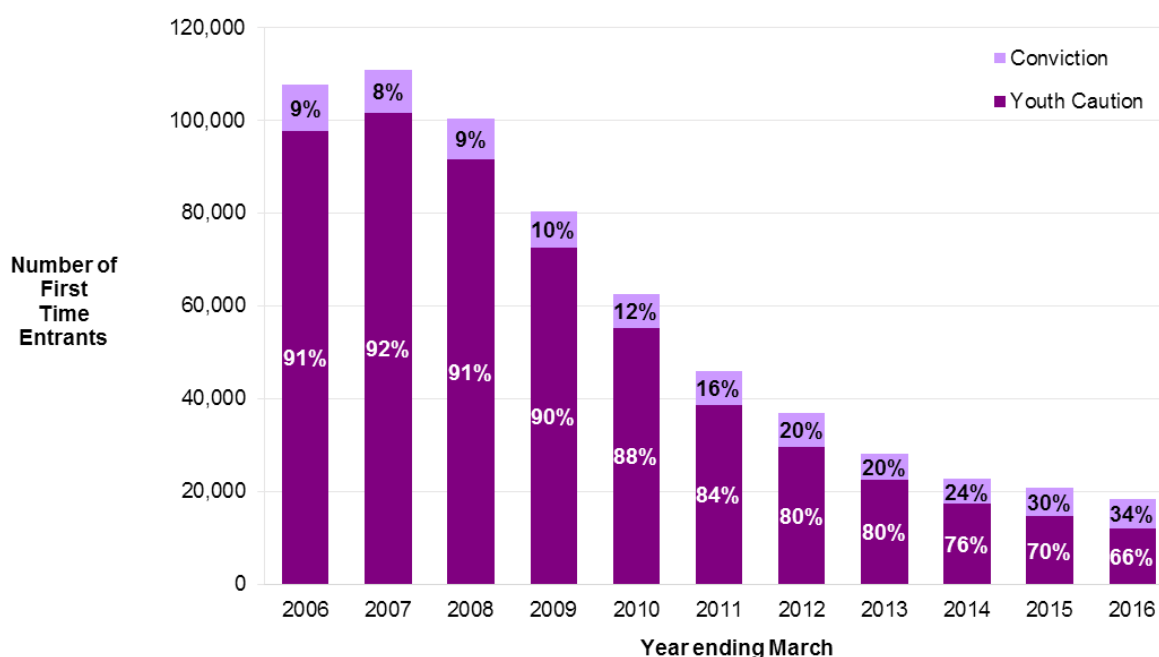
The number of FTEs in the YJS has fallen continually since it peaked in the year ending March 2007 (figure ES.1). In the year ending March 2016 there were 18,300 FTEs. This represents a fall of 12% in the last year and a fall of 83% since the year ending March 2006.

Of the 18,300 FTEs in the year ending March 2016, 66% received a caution, with the remaining receiving convictions (predominantly resulting in community sentences). In the year ending March 2006, youth cautions accounted for 91% of FTE disposals. The proportion of FTEs receiving a caution has fallen year on year since the year ending March 2007.

The proportion of total proven offending by young people that were first (rather than repeat) offences is falling over time. In the year ending March 2016, there were around 45,200 primary offences² committed by young people (aged 10-17 years) recorded on the PNC, which resulted in a caution or conviction. Of these 40% were first offences, and the rest were further offences. This compares to around 218,100 proven offences committed by young people in the year ending March 2006, of which 49% were first offences.

² Young people may be cautioned or convicted on more than one occasion in a year, and may have committed more than one proven offence at each occasion. The most serious offence is then counted as the primary offence

Figure ES.1: Trends in First Time Entrants, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



In the year ending March 2016, 31% of FTEs to the YJS were young people aged 10-14 and the average age of a FTE was 15.2 years.

Young people from BAME groups accounted for 19% of all FTEs in the year ending March 2016 while White young people accounted for 72% (9% unknown). This compares with 11% BAME and 85% White in the year ending March 2006 (3% unknown). Ethnicity here is not self-reported but as recorded by the police.

In the year ending March 2016, young females accounted for 21% of FTEs, compared to 78% of males (with the remaining 1% unknown).

Young people receiving a caution or court conviction

There were 32,900 individual young people who received a youth caution or court conviction in England and Wales in the year ending March 2016. This number has reduced by 13% from the year ending March 2015 and by 61% since the year ending March 2011³.

Compared with the year ending March 2011, the number of young people cautioned or convicted who identified themselves as from a BAME group has fallen by 47% compared with a 65% fall for White young people. In the year ending March 2016, young people from BAME groups made up 22% of the young people who received a youth caution or conviction compared to 75% for White young people (with the remaining 4% unknown⁴).

³ 10 year comparison is not available.

⁴ Figures do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

In the year ending March 2016, females accounted for 18% of young people who received a caution or conviction compared with 82% for males.

Young people aged between 10 and 14 accounted for 24% of all young people who received a caution or conviction in the year ending March 2016, the remaining 76% being aged 15-17.

Proven offences by young people

Overall young people were convicted or cautioned for a total of 79,600 proven offences⁵ in the year ending March 2016. The number of proven offences has been decreasing; it has fallen by 9% from the year ending March 2015 and by 74% since the year ending March 2006.

The most common offence types committed by young people were: violence against the person (26% of the total); theft and handling offences (14%); and criminal damage (12%). Compared with the year ending March 2006, the number of proven offences has fallen among all offence types, but particularly for theft and handling stolen goods, motoring offences and public order.

This different rate of decrease has led to a change in proportions of offence types. The largest proportion of proven offences in the year ending March 2016 were violence against the person offences which also increased the most compared with March 2006 (by eight percentage points). There was also an increase of four percentage points for drugs offences. The largest decrease was for motoring offences which decreased by eight percentage points. Theft and handling offences decreased by four percentage points.

Use of remand for young people

There were 16,300 sentencing occasions involving remand episodes given by the courts for young people in the year ending March 2016 (down by 12% from the year ending March 2015 and by 51% from the year ending March 2011⁶). In the majority of these cases (87%) the young person was bailed, while in 3% of cases the young person was remanded in the community with interventions. In the remaining 9% of cases the young person was remanded to youth detention accommodation⁷.

The average remand population in custody in the year ending March 2016 was 210 young people, accounting for 22% of the average custodial population. This is the same proportion as the year ending March 2006 when the average population in custody on remand was 620.

⁵ This includes **all** offences for which a young person was given a caution or conviction and not just the primary offence.

⁶ 10 year comparison not available.

⁷ Figures do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

For those young people remanded to custody in year ending March 2016, 64% were not sentenced to immediate custody following their remand: 27% were acquitted and 38% were given a non-custodial sentence^{8,9}.

Young people sentenced

In the year ending March 2016, there were 27,900 young people sentenced in England and Wales¹⁰. This number has fallen by 10% compared with the previous year and by 71% since the year ending March 2006. Community sentences (including referral orders and Youth Rehabilitation Orders) were most commonly imposed (68% of sentences).

There were 1,700 young people sentenced to immediate custody in the year ending March 2016 (6% of all those sentenced). This number has fallen by 9% since the year ending March 2015 when 1,800 young people were sentenced to immediate custody and by 73% since the year ending March 2006, when the number was 6,100.

The average custodial sentence length¹¹ for young people sentenced for indictable (more serious) offences was 16.1 months in the year ending March 2016, which was an increase from 14.8 months in the year ending March 2015 and from 11.4 months in the year ending March 2006.

Young people in custody in the youth secure estate

Only 10-17 year olds enter the youth secure estate. However, young people aged 18 remain in custody in the youth secure estate if they only have a short period of their sentence left to serve, to avoid disrupting their regimes. The data presented here are for the under 18 population only.

The average population of young people in custody in the year ending March 2016 was 960. The average population in custody has reduced by 8% from the previous year, and by 66% from the year ending March 2006 (**figure ES.2**).

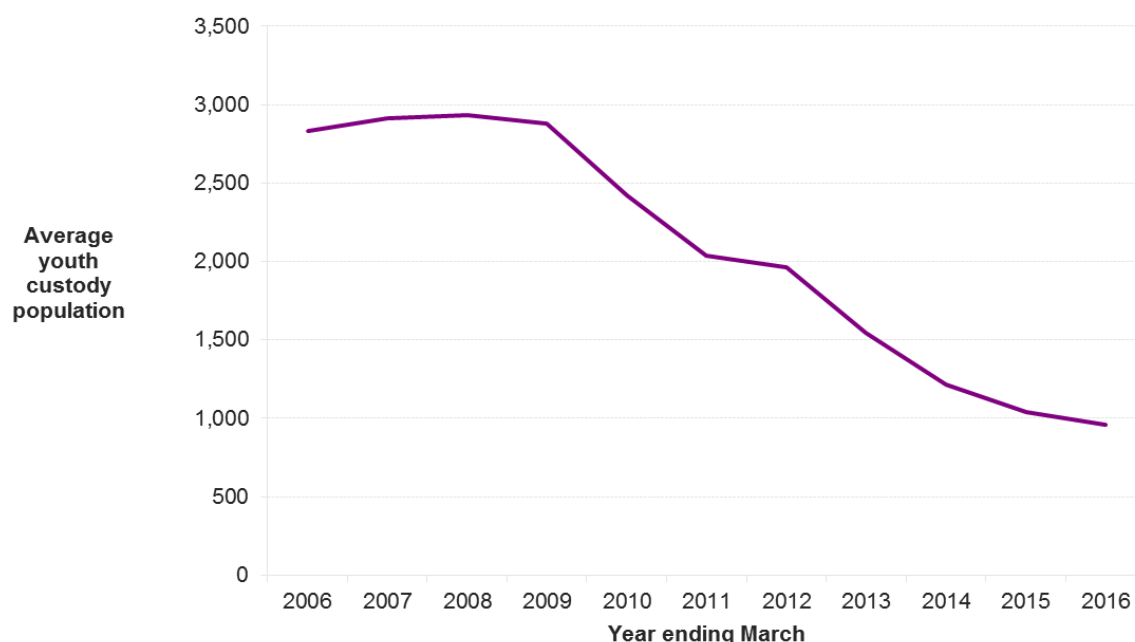
⁸ Percentages may not sum due to rounding.

⁹ This data excludes those magistrates' courts custodial remands committed to the Crown Court for trial or sentence.

¹⁰ The same young person can be sentenced on more than one occasion during the year, so this is not a count of distinct young people.

¹¹ This is the full length of sentence imposed (for fixed term sentences only) not just the period actually spent in custody.

Figure ES.2: Average under 18 custody population, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



Despite the declining numbers in custody, the average number of young people detained for some offence groups has increased compared with the previous year – especially drug offences, but also sexual and violent offences.

Compared with the year ending March 2011¹², the proportion of young people in custody for more serious offence groups has increased. The proportion of young people in custody for violence against the person, robbery and sexual offences have increased from 52% in the year ending March 2011 to 68% in the year ending March 2016. The greatest increase has been in the proportion of young people in custody for violence against the person offences which has seen a 10 percentage point increase since the year ending March 2011 (from 24% to 34%). The proportion for sexual offences also increased over this period (from 5% to 10%). The biggest decrease was for breach of statutory order where the proportion has decreased from 16% to 2%¹³.

In the year ending March 2016, 58% of the young people in custody were from a White ethnic background. Young people from BAME groups accounted for 41% of the under-18 custodial population. This compares with 22% of young people from BAME groups who received a youth caution or conviction in the same year. Young people from a Black ethnic background accounted for 21% of young people in custody. This compares to 75% of young people who received a youth caution or

¹² 10 year comparison not available.

¹³ A change in data recording between different administrative systems may account for a large part of this decrease.

court conviction in that year who were from a White ethnic background and 9% who were from a Black ethnic background.

In the year ending March 2016, females accounted for 4% of the average under-18 custody population (a decrease from 8% compared with the year ending March 2006). This compares to 18% of young people who received a youth caution or court conviction who were female.

The average number of days a young person spent in the secure estate in one episode¹⁴ was 118 days in the year ending March 2016. This is an increase of eight days from the 110 days in the previous year.

In the year ending March 2016, the average time young people spent solely

- on remand was 59 days,
- on a DTO was 112 days,
- on a section 91 sentence was 278 days, and
- on other sentences was 394 days.

The length of time has increased compared with the previous year for each legal basis. In this publication, we have changed the methodology for calculating the time spent in custody, and have retrospectively applied this to previous years. The new approach results in averages that are higher than previously published (refer to the Explanatory notes for further information).

Behaviour management and safety in the youth secure estate

Behaviour management refers to the processes and policies by which youth secure establishments manage challenging or harmful behaviour amongst young people. The data include some 18 year olds who are kept in the youth secure estate.

In the year ending March 2016, there were:

- 4,300 restrictive physical interventions (RPIs)
- 1,400 incidents of self harm
- 2,900 assaults
- 2,400 single separations, in Secure Training Centres (STCs) and Secure Children's Homes (SCHs) only.

Compared with the year ending March 2015, only RPIs have reduced (by 11%); the other incidents have all increased (self harm by 5%, assaults by 6% and single separation by 34%). However, the number of these incidents have all decreased

¹⁴ An episode refers to the time a young person would spend in the secure estate for a distinct episode regardless of the legal basis for their detention, from the time of entering custody to their release within the year period. For some young people this may not represent the whole time a young person spends in the secure estate, as they may have a period of detention which either begins or extends beyond the reference period.

compared with the year ending March 2011¹⁵. They have decreased by 40% for RPIs, 3% for self harm, 14% for assaults and 45% for single separation.

Numbers of such incidents are affected by the size of the population in custody, which has been falling over time, so rates are used to standardise for these changes.

In the year ending March 2016, the rate of RPIs was 27.8 per 100 young people in custody, a decrease from 28.2 in the year ending March 2015 but an increase from 20.5 in the year ending March 2011.

In the year ending March 2016, the rate of self harm incidents was 8.9 per 100 young people. The rate has continued to increase compared with both the year ending March 2015 and the year ending March 2011 (increasing from 7.7 and 4.1, respectively).

In the year ending March 2016, the rate of assaults was 18.9 per 100 young people, an increase compared with both the year ending March 2015 and March 2011 (increasing from 16.2 and 9.7 respectively).

In the year ending March 2016, the rate of single separation incidents was 52.3 per 100 young people (in STCs and SCHs only), an increase from 35.5 in the year ending March 2015 but a decrease from 64.5 in the year ending March 2011.

The Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) system has been implemented in six of eight STCs and under-18 YOIs (MMPR is not used in SCHs). There were a total of 3,100 use of force incidents (for restraint) recorded under the MMPR system for the year ending March 2016, an average of 30.3 incidents per 100 young people in custody per month. MMPR techniques were involved in 73% of all use of force incidents (2,300).

Deaths in custody and number of safeguarding and public protection incidents

In the year ending March 2016, there were no self-inflicted deaths of young people in custody in the secure estate. There was one death in July 2015 due to natural causes (the formal inquest verdict is awaited). Prior to that, there were three deaths during the year ending March 2012. Between the years ending March 2006 and March 2016, there were six deaths.

Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) are required to report to the YJB safeguarding and public protection incidents that occur in the community regarding children and young people under (or recently under) the YOT's supervision. Mandatory reporting is required when a young person is charged with offences of murder/manslaughter, rape or they are subject to multi-agency public protection arrangements and a

¹⁵ 10 year comparison not available.

serious further offence is committed. Safeguarding reporting is required in the event of the death of a young person, attempted suicide or if they are the victim of rape¹⁶.

In the year ending March 2016, 190 safeguarding and public protection incidents were reported to the YJB. This compares to 210 incidents reported in the year ending March 2015.

Reoffending by young people

There were 36,300 young people who received a caution, a non-custodial conviction at court or who were released from custody in the year ending March 2015. This is the number of young people in the cohort used to calculate reoffending statistics.

Of these, 13,700 committed a proven reoffence within the one year follow-up period. This gives a proven reoffending rate of 37.9%, which remained stable compared to the previous year (38.0%) after a number of years of increasing. This rate is 4.3 percentage points higher compared with that for the 2004 cohort.

The number of young people in the reoffending cohort has gone down in each year since the year ending March 2007. There have also been decreases in the number of young people that subsequently reoffend and the number of reoffences they committed – down by 15% and 10%, respectively, compared with the previous year's cohort (March 2014).

Young people who reoffended committed a total of 45,300 reoffences, at an average of 3.3 offences each.

The reoffending rate for those released from custody is 68.7%. It increased by 1.5 percentage points compared to the previous year but has decreased by 6.8 percentage points compared with 2004.

Criminal history of young people

In the year ending March 2016, young people cautioned and convicted for any offence (as recorded on the PNC) had on average 2.2 previous cautions or convictions, a slight decrease from 2.3 in the year ending March 2015 and an increase from 1.7 in the year ending March 2006.

The proportion of young people sentenced for indictable offences that had a criminal history has been reducing. In the year ending March 2016, 74% of these young people had criminal history, compared with 77% in the year ending March 2015 and 88% in the year ending March 2006.

The majority of young people sentenced for indictable offences with the most extensive criminal histories (15 or more previous cautions or convictions) were sentenced either to immediate custody (43%) or to a community sentence (26%).

¹⁶ Full details can be found in the operating procedures available here: www.gov.uk/guidance/report-serious-incidents-guide-for-youth-justice-practitioners

For those with no previous cautions or convictions, the proportions sentenced to these disposal types were 2% and 31%, respectively.

The proportion of young people sentenced to custody who had no prior criminal history was 12% in the year ending March 2016. This is the highest the proportion has been in the last 10 years.

Average time from offence to completion

The criminal court timeliness measure is an estimated average of the time criminal cases spend in the Criminal Justice System, across both magistrates' courts and the Crown Court.

In the year ending March 2016, for all completed criminal cases involving young people, the average number of days from the time that the offence took place until the case was completed (and a final decision was made) was 130 days (the median was 94 days). This is an increase from 125 days (median 88 days) in the previous year and continues the upward trend since year ending March 2011¹⁷.

¹⁷ 10 year comparison not available.

Introduction

These statistics concentrate on young people in the Youth Justice System (YJS) from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 (hereafter the year ending March 2016). Following on from the recommendations in the *Overcoming Barriers to Trust in Crime Statistics* report¹⁸, this publication guides the user through the flows of young people aged 10-17 years in the justice system in England and Wales.

The data described in this publication come from various sources including the Home Office, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and youth secure estate providers. The Analysis Team and the Information Team in the Youth Justice Board (YJB) produce this report, under the direction of the Chief Statistician in the MoJ.

Details of all of the administrative databases and bespoke collections used for this report can be found in the Explanatory Notes and Data Sources. Where data are taken from other publications, links can be found within the chapters. A separate Glossary has been published alongside this report to provide users with further information on the terminology, especially the types of disposals given to young people.

As this is an annual report, the focus is on the year ending March 2016, however much of the data used in this report are drawn from quarterly publications and there may be more up to data available in these. The purpose of this report is to provide an overall summary of the YJS, allowing users to find everything in one place. All data referred to are available in the Excel supplementary tables that accompany this report. Separate tables covering YOT level information are also available.

We have adopted rounding conventions in this publication to aid interpretation and comparisons. Figures greater than 1,000 have been rounded to the nearest 100 and those smaller than 1,000 to the nearest 10. Rates have been reported to one decimal place. Percentages have been calculated from unrounded figures and then rounded to the nearest whole percentage. Averages have either been rounded or reported to one decimal place, depending on the context. Unrounded figures have been presented in the Excel supplementary tables.

The data in this report are compared with the previous year (the year ending March 2015 in most cases), with the year ending March 2006 as a long term comparator (10 years) and where a 10 year comparator is not available, the year ending March 2011 has been used (five year comparator). Any other reference period is referenced explicitly.

¹⁸ www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/images-overcoming-barriers-to-trust-in-crime-statistics-england-and-wales_tcm97-32230-1.pdf

This publication starts (in [Chapter 1](#)) by looking at the number of arrests of young people and the number of youth cautions (previously reprimands and final warnings). It then goes on (in [Chapter 2](#)) to look at young people who are entering the system for the first time. In [Chapter 3](#) the publication describes the characteristics of young people who have been given a youth caution or who were convicted at court.

The publication also covers the proven offences committed by young people ([Chapter 4](#)) and the sentences they received ([Chapter 5](#)). There are separate Chapters on the use of remand (both in custody and in the community) for young people ([Chapter 6](#)); details of the profile of young people in custody ([Chapter 7](#)) and behaviour management in the youth secure estate including statistics on the use of force as recorded under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint system ([Chapter 8](#)).

Towards the end of the publication, in [Chapter 9](#) we look at trends in proven youth reoffending; in [Chapter 10](#) the criminal histories of young people in the system; and in [Chapter 11](#) the differences between the trends in the youth and adult system.

In addition, there are Annexes to the publication that cover key outcome measures relating to youth justice ([Annex A](#)), as well as information on budget and staffing levels in YOTs ([Annex B](#)). [Annex C](#) covers data from the Crime Survey for England and Wales for 10 to 15 year olds, while [Annex D](#) presents the average number of days from offence to completion. There are also details of the data sources used in this publication.

Alongside this statistical release, we have published new information on the key characteristics and needs of young people in custody. This one off supplementary analytical paper is available at www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-statistics-2015-to-2016.

Statement of use

The focus for this publication is to draw together a range of statistical data about young people (aged 10-17 years) in the Youth Justice System (YJS) in the year ending March 2016. The publication is intended to help users understand the various stages of the YJS in England and Wales, and the volume of young people or outcomes at each stage.

The contents of the report will be of interest to government policy makers and those monitoring policy, the agencies engaged with the YJS at both national and local levels, as well as academics, the voluntary and community sector and others who want to understand more about the YJS.

‘National Statistics’ designation

The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice continue to be observed.

In this publication information is presented mainly on the new offence group breakdowns.

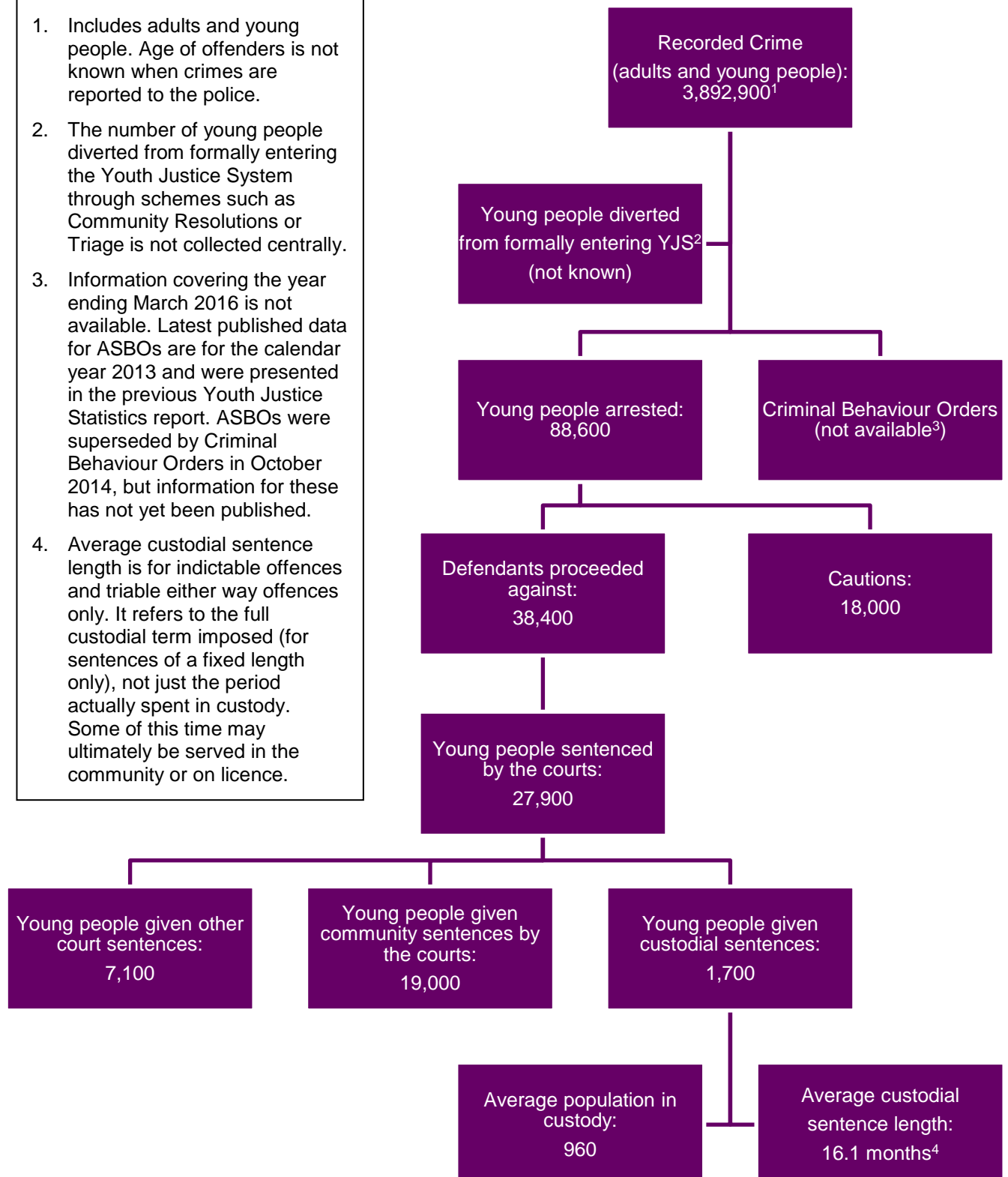
For further information on the terms used in this report, please see the Glossary provided.

If you have any feedback, questions or requests for further information about this statistical bulletin, please direct them to the appropriate contact given at the end of this report.

Flows through the Youth Justice System, year ending March 2016

Notes on flow chart:

1. Includes adults and young people. Age of offenders is not known when crimes are reported to the police.
2. The number of young people diverted from formally entering the Youth Justice System through schemes such as Community Resolutions or Triage is not collected centrally.
3. Information covering the year ending March 2016 is not available. Latest published data for ASBOs are for the calendar year 2013 and were presented in the previous Youth Justice Statistics report. ASBOs were superseded by Criminal Behaviour Orders in October 2014, but information for these has not yet been published.
4. Average custodial sentence length is for indictable offences and triable either way offences only. It refers to the full custodial term imposed (for sentences of a fixed length only), not just the period actually spent in custody. Some of this time may ultimately be served in the community or on licence.



Understanding the flows through the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2016 there were about 3.9 million crimes **reported to the police** in England and Wales. At the time of reporting these crimes, the age of the person responsible is not always known, and in almost half of offences recorded in the year ending March 2016, no known suspect was ever identified¹⁹.

The police in England and Wales made around 896,200 arrests for notifiable offences in the year ending March 2016, and of these 88,600 (10%) were of young people aged 10-17. Not all young people who come into contact with the police formally enter the Youth Justice System (YJS); some will be diverted through schemes such as Triage or a restorative justice programme²⁰. The number of young people who are diverted from the system at this stage is unknown as this data is not collected centrally²¹. In some cases no further action will be taken against a young person or any subsequent case will be dropped, or they are found not guilty at court, which is why arrest figures are higher than those of disposals.

Consequently the complete number of offences committed by young people that come to the attention of the police or other criminal justice agencies will be higher than is shown by these statistics, due to the reasons set out above.

In the year ending March 2016 there were 38,400 young people proceeded against and 18,000 given a youth caution. It should be noted that the same young person may be responsible for more than one offence in a given period (for example a young person may be cautioned for an offence in April and then receive a referral order for a different offence in September), so these figures do not refer to individuals.

There are a number of ways offences are dealt with either outside or inside the courts. These are outlined below.

Youth Cautions (includes youth conditional cautions)

These are the formal out of court disposals currently available for young people²². In the year ending March 2016, 18,000 youth cautions were issued by the Police. Note that from 8 April 2013, reprimands and final warnings were replaced by youth cautions and youth conditional cautions were made available to all 10-17 year olds

¹⁹ See www.gov.uk/government/statistics/crime-outcomes-in-england-and-wales-2015-to-2016

²⁰ For more information please see the YJB Case Management Guidance on out of court disposals: www.gov.uk/government/publications/use-out-of-court-disposals/use-out-of-court-disposals-section-1-case-management-guidance

²¹ For more information please see the User Guide to Home Office Crime Statistics: www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/116226/user-guide-crime-statistics.pdf

²² Previously, penalty notices for disorder were another out of court disposal available for young people. These were financial penalties for low level offences for 16-17 year olds. However they are no longer available for persons under 18 from 8 April 2013.

(they were only available for 16 and 17 year olds in five pilot areas from 26 January 2010).

Court proceedings and young people sentenced

In the year ending March 2016 there were 38,400 defendants (aged 10-17) proceeded against in the courts. Of these 27,900 were convicted and sentenced. Those who were not sentenced may have been found not guilty or had the case against them dropped. Of those that were sentenced:

- 7,100 young people were sentenced to first tier²³ sentences (including fines and discharges);
- A further 19,000 young people were sentenced to community sentences, the majority being referral orders (63% of total community sentences) and youth rehabilitation orders (37% of total community sentences). See Glossary for more information;
- A relatively small number of young people were sentenced to immediate custody (1,700) accounting for 6% of all young people sentenced. The average custodial sentence given for indictable offences was 16.1 months²⁴. The most common type of custodial sentence given was a Detention and Training Order (DTO), where half the time is typically served in custody and the remainder in the community on licence and under Youth Offending Team (YOT) supervision.

Information on case completion times

In the year ending March 2016, the average (mean)²⁵ time from offence to completion²⁶ for young people was 130 days and the median²⁷ time was 94 days.

The average time from offence to completion consists of the following processes:

- Offence to arrest - mean 17 days, median 1 day;
- Arrest to charge - mean 24 days, median 1 day;
- Charge to first listing at court - mean 20 days, median 16 days;
- First listing to completion - mean 44 days, median 21 days.

²³ This is an umbrella term used for the following orders made at court: bind overs, discharges, fines and deferred sentences. For more information please see the Glossary.

²⁴ The average custodial sentence length refers to the full custodial term imposed (for sentences of a fixed length only), not just the period actually spent in custody. Some of this time may ultimately be served in the community on licence.

²⁵ The mean is the total time for all the relevant criminal cases, divided by the number of cases.

²⁶ Where a magistrate's youth panel sat and the date of arrest is known.

²⁷ The median is the value that lies in the middle when all the time values are arranged in order of size. Unlike the mean, it is not influenced by a small number of extreme values.

Chapter 1: Gateway to the Youth Justice System

This chapter provides details of young people who were arrested and cautioned.

The arrest data come from the Home Office. Further information is available in the police powers and procedures publication for England and Wales available at: www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales

Out of court disposals are sanctions that are used by the police, with reference to the Crown Prosecution Service, to address offences without recourse to the courts. During the year ending March 2016, the formal out of court disposals²⁸ available to young people were youth cautions and youth conditional cautions. Previously, out of court disposals also included Penalty Notices for Disorder for young people aged 16 and 17. However, from 8 April 2013, these were no longer available. They are therefore not presented in this report but historical information is available in the previous Youth Justice Statistics report²⁹.

The data on youth cautions have been taken from the Police National Computer data held by MoJ. For further information see the quarterly Criminal Justice Statistics publication: www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2016, there were 88,600 arrests of young people (aged 10-17) carried out by the police in England and Wales, accounting for 10% of the total number arrested.
- In the year ending March 2016, there were 18,000 youth cautions given to young people in England and Wales. This is a decrease of 17% on the 21,700 given in the previous year (year ending March 2015), and a decrease of 85% on the 122,300 given in the year ending March 2006.

²⁸ Community resolution is a non-statutory disposal available to the police, rolled out in the year ending March 2009. The Home Office began centrally collecting data from forces on community resolutions from April 2014, and published national figures for the first time in July 2015. Community resolutions data are not available by age so the only out of court disposals presented here are youth cautions.

²⁹ Available at www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-annual-statistics-2014-to-2015

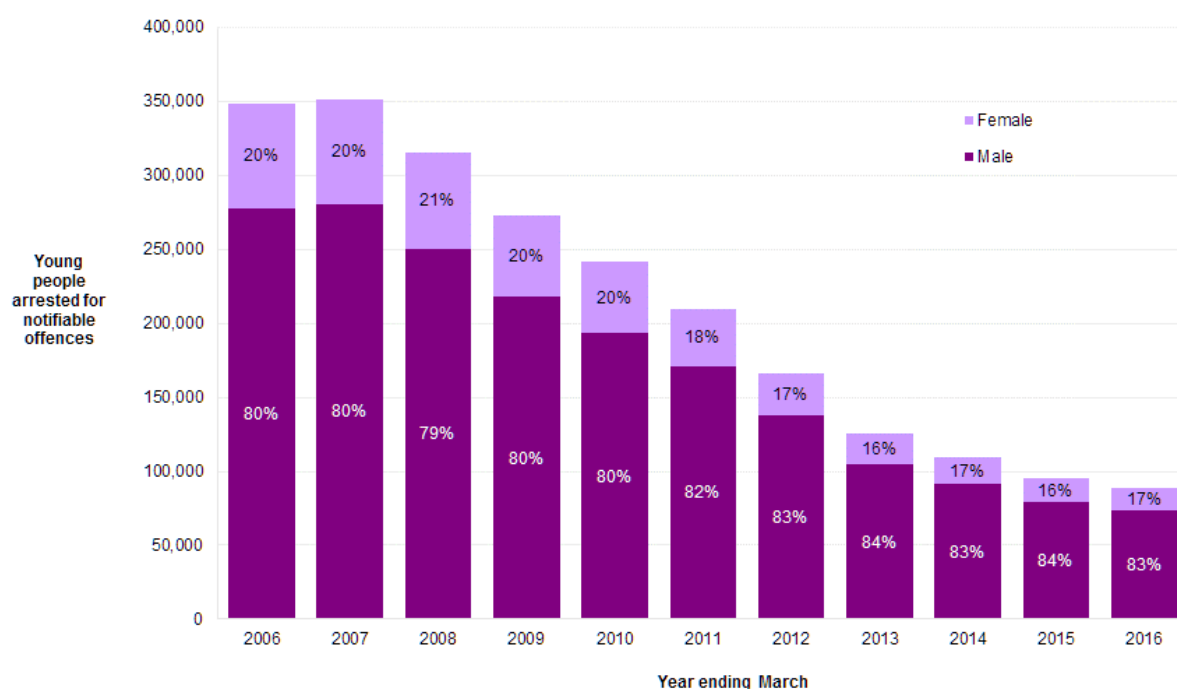
1.1 Arrests for notifiable offences³⁰

Figures on arrests reported to the Home Office rely on incidents being reported to and recorded by the police. They can also be affected by police priorities and practices, and therefore should not be used to infer total levels of crime committed by young people.

In the year ending March 2016, there were 88,600 arrests of young people (aged 10-17) for notifiable offences. Arrests of young people accounted for 10% of total arrests, which is the same as the proportion of young people in the general population that are of offending age (that is those aged 10 and over)³¹.

The downward trend seen since the peak in arrests in the year ending March 2007 has continued. Between the years ending March 2015 and March 2016, arrests of young people fell by 7%. In the 10 year period from the year ending March 2006 and March 2016 arrests of young people fell by 75%, from 348,500 to 88,600.

Figure 1.1: Trends in arrests of young people for notifiable offences by gender, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



While young males accounted for 8% and young females 2% of the total number of people arrested, they each accounted for 5% of the proportion of the general population that is of offending age, respectively.

³⁰ In the year ending March 2016 the 'reason for arrest' offence groups were updated to match the groups used in crime statistics. The 2015/16 data broken down by offence group are not all directly comparable with previous data.

³¹ Based on Office for National Statistics 2015 mid-year estimates.

Young people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups accounted for 25% of total arrests, while 71% were White.³²

In the year ending March 2016, the majority of arrests by police of young people were for theft offences (26%) and violence against the person offences (25%).

1.2 Youth cautions³³

Excluding motoring offences, there were 18,000 youth cautions given to young people in the year ending March 2016. This was a decrease of 17% on the 21,700 given in the year ending March 2015, and a decrease of 85% on the 122,300 given in the year ending March 2006.

Between the years ending March 2015 and March 2016 the number of youth cautions fell by 13% for females, and 18% for males. Compared to the year ending March 2006, the number of cautions fell by 89% for females and 84% for males.

Compared to the previous year, the number of youth cautions has decreased by 17% for young people from BAME groups and 19% for White young people³⁴. Compared with the year ending March 2006, the number of youth cautions has fallen for young people from both BAME and White ethnic groups. The number of youth cautions for BAME young people fell by 80% from 12,000 in the year ending March 2006 to 2,300 in the year ending March 2016 and by 86% for White young people from 104,100 in the year ending March 2006 to 14,300 in the year ending March 2016.

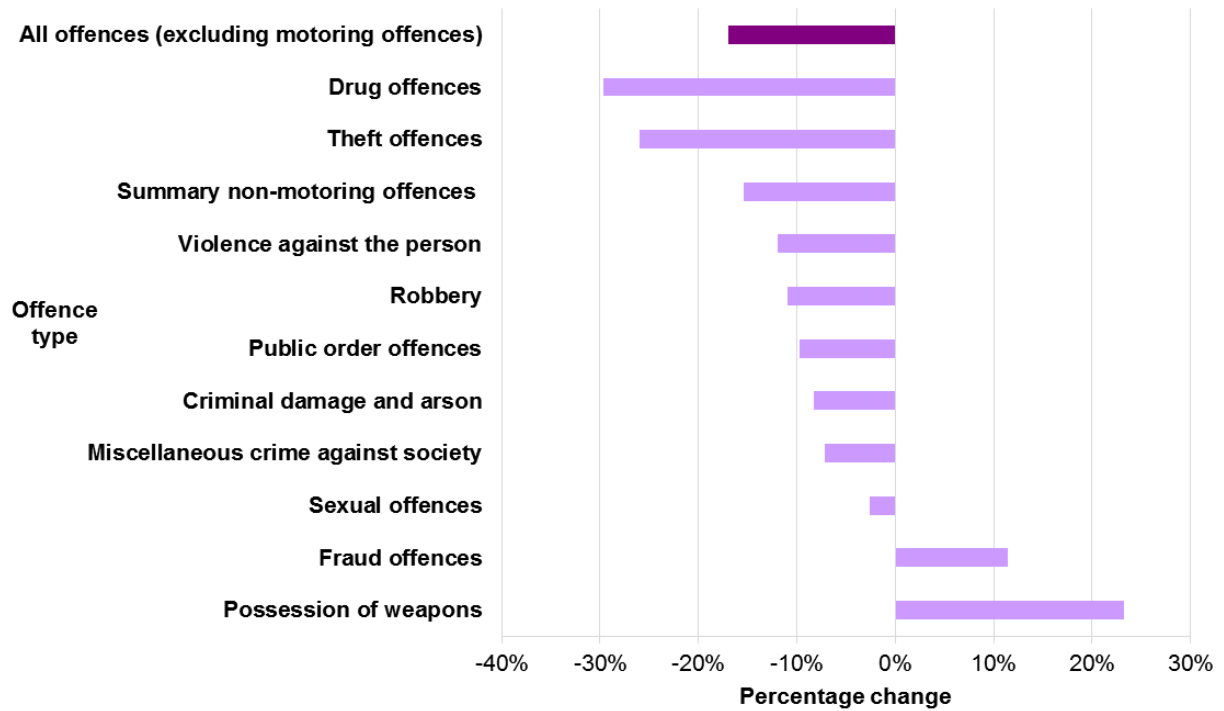
With the exception of possession of weapons and fraud offences, between the years ending March 2015 and March 2016, there were decreases in the use of cautions across all offence types, including a 30% decrease in the number of young people given youth cautions for drug offences (from 3,500 to 2,500); and a 26% fall in those for theft offences (from 5,300 to 3,900). Cautions for possession of weapons increased by 23% from 810 to 1,000. Cautions for fraud offences increased by 11% but they only made up 1% of cautions given to young people (or 140 cautions).

³² Ethnicity is self-identified. For 5% of those arrested, ethnicity was not recorded. Figures do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

³³ Since 8 April 2013 reprimand and final warnings for young people have been replaced with a new out of court disposal: The Youth Caution for young offenders. The guidance is published at the link www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-cautions-guidance-for-police-and-youth-offending-teams - see explanatory notes for further details.

³⁴ Ethnicity is police officer identified.

Figure 1.2: Percentage change in youth cautions by type of offence, between years ending March 2015 and March 2016



Chapter 2: First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

This chapter provides an overview of the number of First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice System (YJS). It is based on an extract of data held by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), as recorded on the Police National Computer (PNC) and covers information up to the year ending March 2016.

These data relate to proven offences only, where a young person is given a formal caution or court disposal. As such this is not a measure of the amount of crime committed by young people, as only a proportion of crimes are detected and resolved, and the age of the offender is not known until the point of arrest. For the latest MoJ publication please see:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

A FTE is a young person who has received their first caution or conviction for an offence processed by a police force in England or Wales or by the British Transport Police³⁵. Other sanctions given by the police are not counted (such as informal disposals like community resolutions).

The figures shown for first offences follow the same definition as for First Time Entrants and therefore agree with the FTE figures. A further offence is any other primary offence recorded on the PNC that resulted in a caution or conviction and where the offender had received at least one of these sanctions on a previous occasion. For more information on criminal histories please see [Chapter 10](#).

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2016, there were 18,300 FTEs to the YJS. This number has continued falling since the peak of 110,800 in the year ending March 2007. In the last year, the number has fallen by 12% (from 20,700 in the year ending March 2015). It has fallen by 83% since the year ending March 2006.
- FTEs to the YJS are getting older. Their average age increased from 14.6 to 15.2 years between the years ending March 2006 and March 2016.
- The proportion of proven offending by young people that were first (rather than repeat) offences is falling. In the year ending March 2016, there were around 45,200 offences³⁶ committed by young people (aged 10-17 years) recorded on the PNC, who had at least one offence that resulted in a caution or conviction. Of these 40% were first offences, and the rest were further

³⁵ Figures only include young people residing in England and Wales at the time of their caution or conviction.

³⁶ Where there were multiple offences on the same occasion, only the recorded primary offence would be counted. Therefore figures may differ from the number of proven offences in chapter 4, which include all offences.

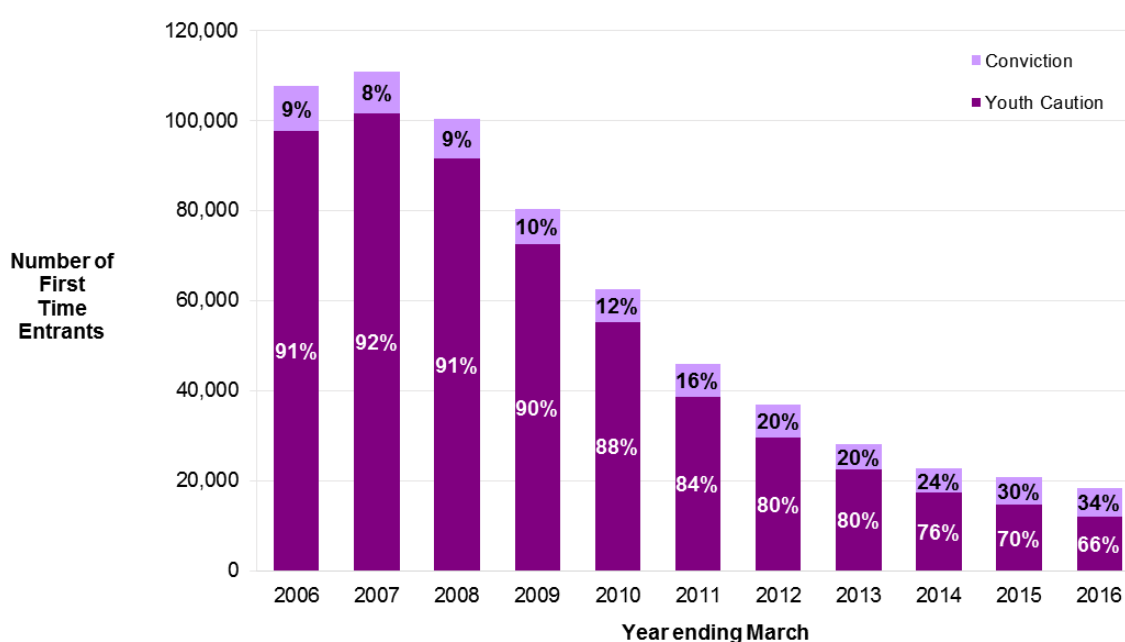
offences. This compares to around 218,100 offences committed by young people in the year ending March 2006, with 49% being first offences.

2.1 Trends in First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

The number of FTEs has continued to fall. In the last year, it has fallen by 12%, from 20,700 to 18,300 in the year ending March 2016. Compared with the year ending March 2006, the number has fallen by 83% (from 107,700 to 18,300). Since its peak in the year ending March 2007, it has fallen by 84%.

The majority of FTEs received a caution. Of the 18,300 FTEs in the year ending March 2016, 66% (12,000) received a caution, with the remaining 6,300 receiving convictions (predominantly community sentences). The proportion of FTEs receiving a youth caution has fallen when compared with the year ending March 2006 (when 91% of FTEs had an out of court disposal).

Figure 2.1: Trends in First Time Entrants, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



The most common type of offence committed by FTEs were summary non-motoring offences (less serious offences that can be heard only in the magistrates' court). In the year ending March 2016, 36% of FTEs committed this offence type. This was followed by theft offences (20%) and drug offences (11%). Over the last 10 years, the proportions of theft offences and drug offences have changed while that for summary non-motoring offences has remained broadly the same. Between the years ending March 2006 and March 2016, the proportion of theft offences decreased (from 33% to 20%) while that for drug offences increased (from 6% to 11%).

2.2 Trends in First Time Entrants by demographic characteristics

In the year ending March 2016, FTEs were 15.2 years old on average. The majority (69%) were aged 15-17 and 31% were aged 10-14.

The number of young females entering the YJS is falling at a greater rate than that for young males (88% fall for females compared with an 81% fall for males since the year ending March 2006). Consequently, the proportion of young female FTEs has decreased from 31% of all FTEs in the year ending March 2006 to 21% in the year ending March 2016.

Young people who were from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) group accounted for 19% of all FTEs in the year ending March 2016, while White young people accounted for 72%³⁷. This compares to 11% BAME and 85% White in the year ending March 2006³⁸. Over the period since the year ending March 2006, the number of young people entering the YJS has fallen more slowly for BAME young people than it has for White young people (72% fall for BAME, 86% fall for White), so the proportion of BAME young people among FTEs is increasing.

FTEs to the YJS are getting older. Their average age increased from 14.6 to 15.2 years between the years ending March 2006 and March 2016. In general, FTEs who were BAME had a higher average age than those who were White, with those from Asian and Other ethnic groups consistently having the highest average age (both 15.6 years in the year ending March 2016). In the year ending March 2016, Black young people were a comparable average age to White young people (15.3 years compared with 15.2 years respectively).

2.3 First offences and further offences committed by young people

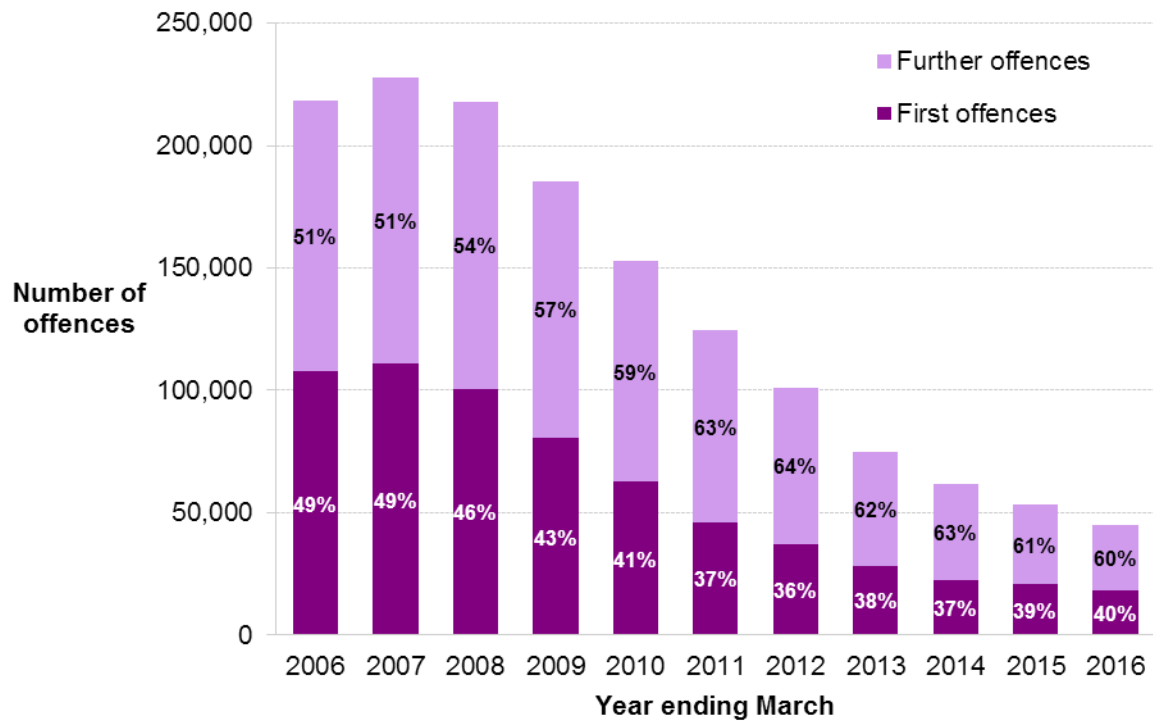
In the year ending March 2016, there were 45,200 offences committed by young people; 40% of these (18,200) were first offences and 60% were further offences (26,900).

The number of first and further proven offences have both decreased since they peaked (first offences peaked in the year ending March 2007, further offences in the year ending March 2008). In the year ending March 2006, the proportion of first offences was 49% compared with 40% in the year ending March 2016.

³⁷ Ethnicity as recorded by Police on the Police National Computer (not self-reported).

³⁸ The proportion with unknown ethnicity has increased from 3% to 9% over the same period.

Figure 2.2: Number and proportion of first and further offences committed by young people, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



Chapter 3: Characteristics of young people in the Youth Justice System

This chapter reports on the number and demographic characteristics of young people who received a youth caution or court conviction in the year ending March 2016. It is important to note that these figures relate to the number of individual young people who received a youth caution or court conviction and not the number of offences or disposals (which are covered in chapter 4 and 5 respectively). These data are taken from the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF). The data in the YJAF were submitted by local Youth Offending Teams (YOTs).

In addition to the above, YOTs will also be working with young people on prevention programmes and with some young people on cautions and sentences from previous years, however the number is unknown. Therefore the figures presented in this chapter are not a count of the total number of young people that YOTs worked with. In addition YOTs do not work with all young people who received youth cautions. Some young people who received cautions will be dealt with by the police and will not be referred to a YOT.

The data from the YJAF are available, broken down by each YOT in the local level tables that accompany this publication.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-justice-statistics.

Key findings

- As recorded by YOTs, around 32,900³⁹ young people received a caution or court conviction in the year ending March 2016. This is a reduction of 13% from 37,900 in the year ending March 2015⁴⁰.
- In the year ending March 2016, the majority (64%) of young people who received a youth caution or court conviction were males aged 15 and over⁴¹.
- The majority (75%) of young people who received a caution or conviction came from a White ethnic background.

³⁹ This figure and all the YJAF data used in chapters 3, 4 and 6 comes from an extract of the live YJAF system taken in December 2016.

⁴⁰ 10 year comparison not available.

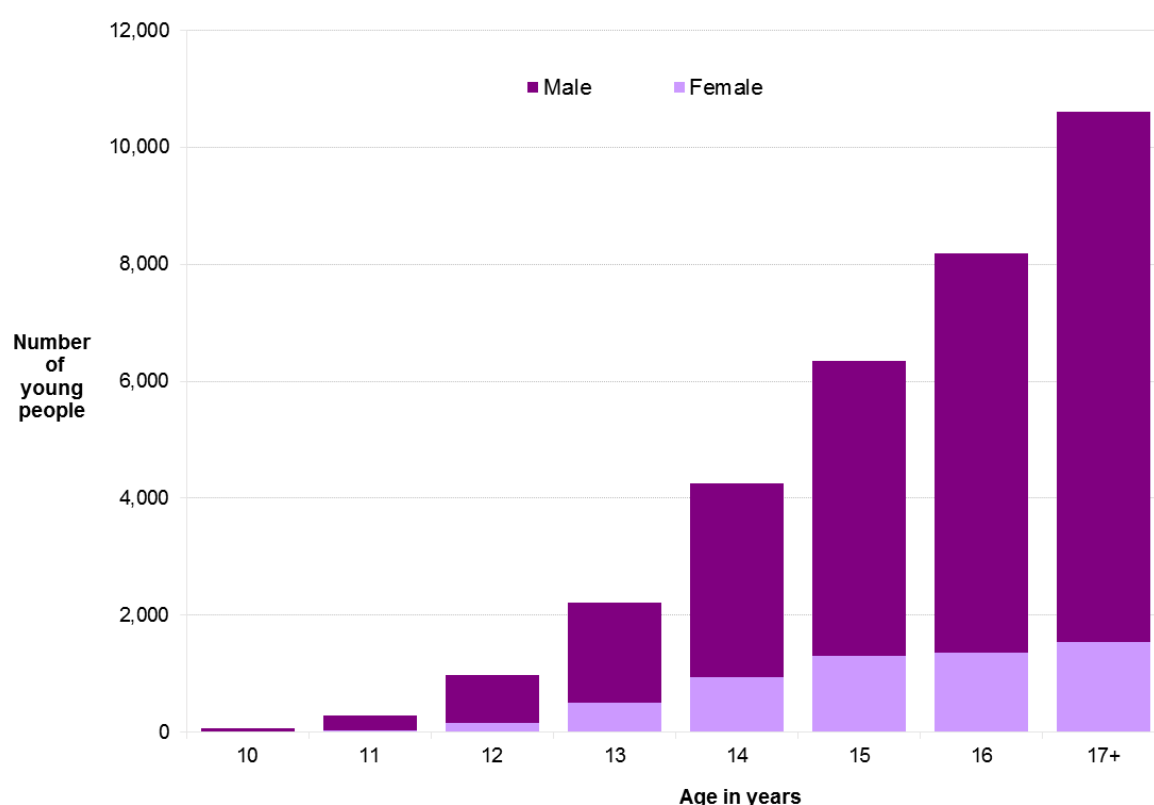
⁴¹ YOTs work with a small number of young people who are aged over 17 and are still finishing their disposal.

3.1 Demographics of young people in the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2016, the majority (64%) of young people who received a youth caution or court conviction were males aged 15 and over. A further 19% were males aged 10-14, 13% were females aged 15 and over and 5% were females aged 10-14⁴². These proportions are broadly consistent with those in the previous year.

Compared with the previous year, the number of young people who received a youth caution or court conviction has decreased for each age group and gender, however the decrease was the most for females aged 15 and over, which have reduced by 16%.

Figure 3.1: Young people who received a youth caution or court conviction, by age and gender, year ending March 2016



Young people from a White ethnic background⁴³ accounted for 75% of all young people receiving a youth caution or court conviction in the year ending March 2016. Those from a Black ethnic background accounted for 9%, those from an Asian ethnic

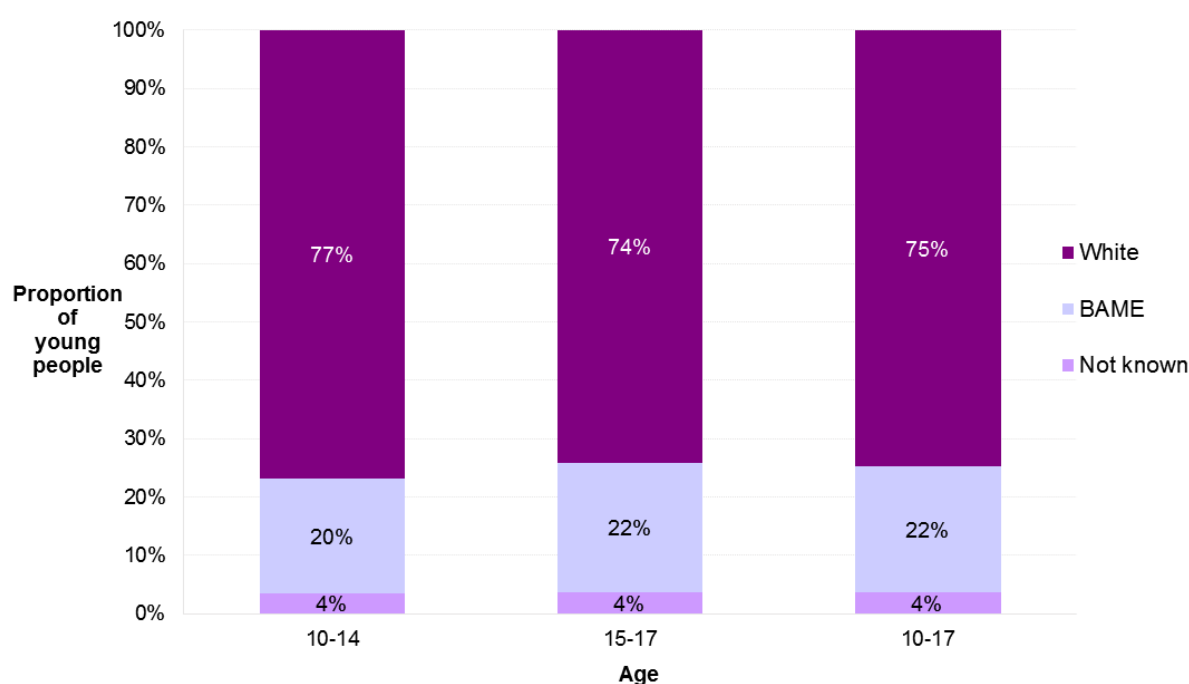
⁴² Figures do not add to 100% due to rounding.

⁴³ Ethnicity data from YJAF are self-reported.

background for 5% and those from a Mixed ethnic background for 6%. The Other ethnic group made up 1%⁴⁴.

The numbers of young people in the YJS from all ethnic groups has fallen over time, although at different rates. Compared with the year ending March 2011⁴⁵, the proportion of White young people who received a caution or conviction decreased by seven percentage points (from 82% to 75%). The proportion of BAME young people who received a caution or conviction increased by six percentage points (from 16% to 22%).

Figure 3.2 Proportion of young people convicted on an offence, by self-identified ethnicity and age group, year ending March 2016



⁴⁴ The remaining 5% were unknown.

⁴⁵ 10 year comparison not available.

Chapter 4: Proven offences by young people

This chapter covers proven offences committed by young people in the year ending March 2016⁴⁶. An offence is proven when a young person receives a youth caution or conviction. It includes information on the types of offences committed by young people in the year ending March 2016 and since the year ending March 2006. The data have been taken from the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF) database. These data include all offences a young person is given a youth caution or court conviction for and not just the primary offence. The offence breakdown differs from the main offence types⁴⁷ used by the Ministry of Justice.

Key findings

- Young people aged between 10 and 17 committed 79,600 proven offences resulting in a youth caution or court conviction in the year ending March 2016 according to YJAF data. This is down by 9% from the year ending March 2015.
- The number of proven offences committed by young people has reduced by 74% since the year ending March 2006.
- The main offence types for young people in the year ending March 2016 were; violence against the person (26% of the total), theft and handling (14%) and criminal damage (12%).

4.1 Trends in proven offences by young people

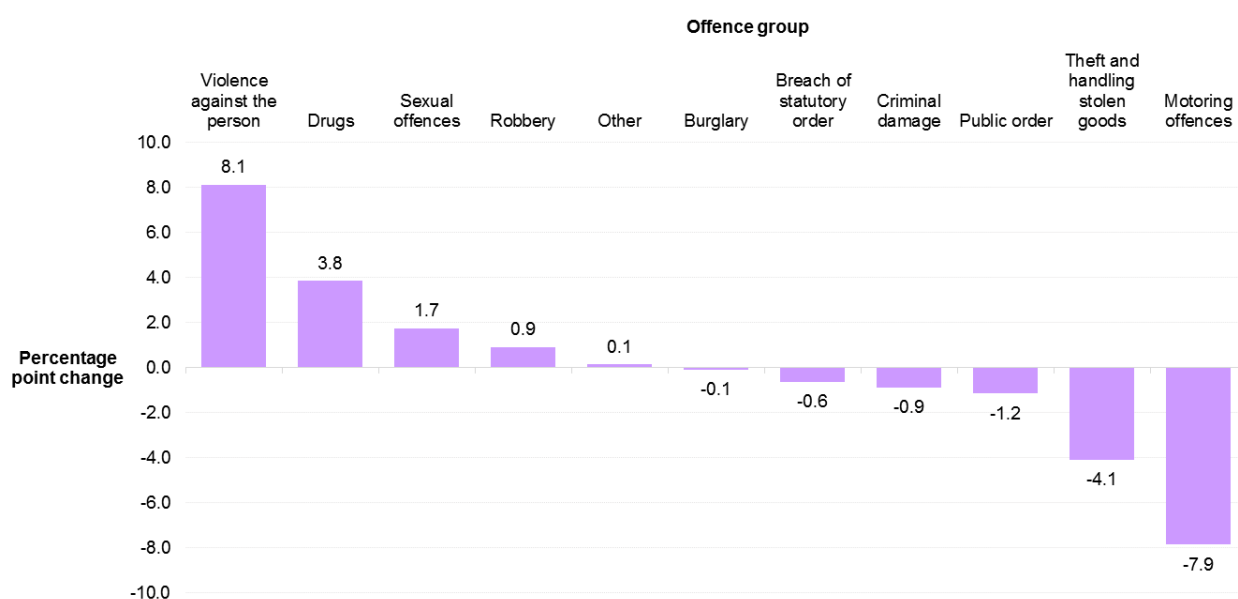
The number of proven offences by young people fell by 9% in the last year, from 87,200 proven offences in the year ending March 2015 to 79,600 in the year ending March 2016. Compared with the year ending March 2006, the number of proven offences has fallen by 74%.

Between the years ending March 2006 and March 2016 the proportions of proven offences by type has changed. The largest increase was in violence against the person, which increased by eight percentage points to 26% of all offences. Drug offences increased by four percentage points. The largest decrease was for motoring offences which decreased by eight percentage points. Theft and handling offences also decreased by four percentage points while the remaining offence groups remained fairly consistent over this period.

⁴⁶ Based on data extracted from YJAF taken in December 2016.

⁴⁷ The main offence groups used in this report differ from those used by the MoJ, for example the offence of common assault is classed as a summary offence by the MoJ, while here it is included under violence against the person. Burglary includes domestic and non-domestic burglary. Further details on 'other' offences can be found in the supplementary tables.

Figure 4.1: Percentage point change in the proportion of proven offences committed by young people by offence group, year ending March 2006 to March 2016



4.2 Types of proven offences by young people

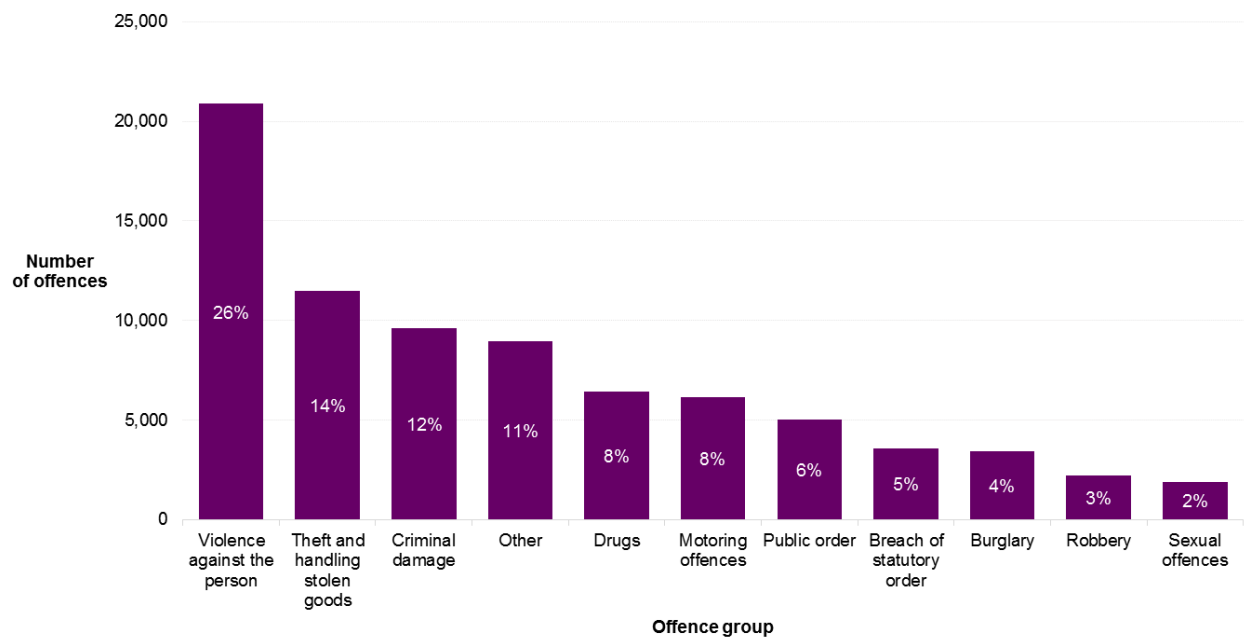
In the year ending March 2016, there were 79,600 proven offences committed by young people which resulted in a youth caution or conviction in court.

The main offence types for young people in the year ending March 2016 were;

- Violence against the person (26%);
- Theft and handling (14%);
- Criminal damage (12%)

There were 1,900 sexual offences for which a young person was cautioned or convicted in the year ending March 2016; this accounted for 2% of all offences.

Figure 4.2: Proven offences by young people, year ending March 2016



Chapter 5: Young people sentenced

This chapter covers young people proceeded against, found guilty at courts and sentenced for proven offences in the year ending March 2016. The data has mostly been taken from the Ministry of Justice's (MoJ) Court Proceedings Database (CPD). For more information please see:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

This chapter also covers information on parenting orders from the CPD and information about the requirements associated with Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) taken from the YJB's Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF). Please see the Glossary for more details.

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2016 there were 38,400 young people proceeded against at magistrates' courts, a fall of 11% compared with the year ending March 2015 and a fall of 71% compared with the year ending March 2006.
- 27,900 young people were found guilty at courts in the year ending March 2016 which was 73% of all young people proceeded against.
- Since the year ending March 2006 the total number of young people sentenced at court has fallen by 71%, from 96,600 in the year ending March 2006 to 27,900 in the year ending March 2016.
- The number of young people sentenced to immediate custody has fallen by 9% since the year ending March 2015 when there 1,800 young people sentenced to immediate custody and by 73% since the year ending March 2006, when there were 6,100 young people sentenced to immediate custody, to 1,700 in the year ending March 2016.
- The average custodial sentence length for indictable offences has increased from 11.4 months in the year ending March 2006 to 16.1 months in the year ending March 2016.

5.1 Young people proceeded against and convicted

In the year ending March 2016, there were 38,400 young people proceeded against at magistrates' courts. Of these, 24,500 (64%) were for indictable offences, 11,200 (29%) were for summary non-motoring offences and 2,700 (7%) were for summary motoring offences.

In the year ending March 2016, 27,900 young people were found guilty at courts, with 72% of these being males aged 15-17. Of all young people found guilty, the most common primary offence⁴⁸ types were:

- summary non-motoring (accounting for 28% of all offences);
- theft offences (19%); and
- criminal damage and arson (11%).

5.2 Young people sentenced

In the year ending March 2016, there was a total of 27,900 young people sentenced for all types of offences. When examined by type of sentence:

- 1,700 young people were sentenced to immediate custodial sentences, with most (84%) of these being Detention and Training Orders (DTOs);
- 19,000 young people were sentenced to community sentences, including 12,000 Referral Orders (63% of all community sentences) and 7,000 Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) (37% of all community sentences);
- 7,100 young people were sentenced to other types of sentences (these include discharges, fines and otherwise dealt with disposals. See the separately published Glossary for more details).

5.3 Trends in the number of young people sentenced

The total number of young people sentenced at court has fallen by 10% from 31,000 in the year ending March 2015 to 27,900 in the year ending March 2016. This number has fallen by 71%, from 96,600 in the year ending March 2006.

The number of young people sentenced to immediate custody fell by 9% from 1,800 in the year ending March 2015 to 1,700 in the year ending March 2016. The number of young people receiving this type of sentence has fallen by 73% since the year ending March 2006, when there were 6,100 young people sentenced to immediate custody.

The average custodial sentence length for indictable offences has increased from 11.4 months in the year ending March 2006 to 16.1 months in the year ending March 2016.

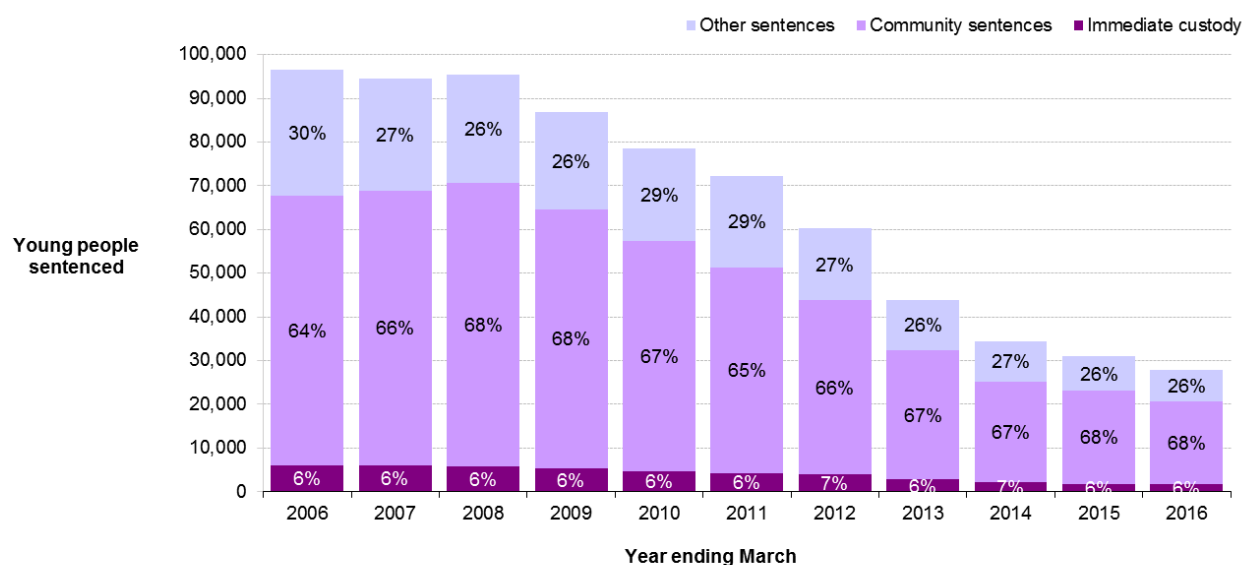
The number of young people sentenced to community sentences fell by 10% from 21,200 in the year ending March 2015 to 19,000 in the year ending March 2016. The number of young people receiving these types of sentence has fallen by 69% since

⁴⁸ Where more than one offence is considered in the court case or cautioning occasion the offence that would attract the most severe sentencing outcome is deemed to be the primary offence. See Glossary for more details.

the year ending March 2006, when 61,600 young people were sentenced to community sentences.

For community sentences, the number of young people given YROs fell by 16% in the last year, from 8,300 to 7,000. The number of young people being sentenced to a Referral Order has decreased by 6% from 12,800 in the year ending March 2015 to 12,000 in the year ending March 2016.

Figure 5.1: Trends in the number of young people sentenced, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



5.4 Trends in the number of young people sentenced for indictable offences⁴⁹

There were 27,900 young people sentenced for all offences in the year ending March 2016, of these 17,700 (64%) were for indictable offences⁵⁰. The figure of 17,700 in the year ending March 2016 represented a reduction of 13% since the year ending March 2015 and a reduction of 70% since the year ending March 2006. Males accounted for 89% of all young people sentenced for indictable offences. This proportion has fluctuated between 86% and 89% in the last decade.

⁴⁹ Criminal offences are divided into three main offence groups; Indictable; Summary non-motoring; and Summary motoring. Please refer to the Glossary for further details of these offence groups. This part of the chapter focuses on Indictable offences only as they are more serious (Summary non-motoring offences include TV license evasion and Summary motoring offences include speeding and driving whilst disqualified).

⁵⁰ Includes triable either way offences.

5.5 Youth Rehabilitation Orders

This section covers details of the requirements associated with Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) recorded by Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) for the year ending March 2016, in the YOT case management systems. These data are a further breakdown of the types and number of requirements taken from the YJB's Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF).

The YRO is a generic community sentence for young people. It was designed to simplify sentencing, while improving the flexibility of interventions available to address individual needs and risks. There are 17 different types of requirements that can be attached to a YRO, and it is possible for one young person to have multiple requirements. For further details of the type of requirements available, please see the Glossary.

In the year ending March 2016, 7,000 young people were given YROs by the courts according to data from the MoJ.

In the year ending March 2016 according to YJAF, 16,300 requirements were recorded on 8,800 YROs (more details are given in Table 5.6 of the supplementary tables).

Please note that a large number of YROs (2,900) recorded in YJAF did not have any requirement data attached to them. This represents 33% of all YROs. All YROs given should have requirements attached, therefore caution should be applied when interpreting these figures.

19% of YROs given had only one requirement attached to them, with 28% having two requirements attached. 11% of YROs had five or more requirements attached.

The most commonly used requirement type was a Supervision requirement. It was used in 33% of the recorded YRO requirements.

Other common requirements included; 'Activity' (19% of requirements), 'Curfew' (14%), 'Electronic Monitoring' (13%), 'Programme' (8%), 'Unpaid Work' (5%) and 'Attendance Centre Orders' (3%).

5.6 Parenting Orders

A court may impose an order on a parent or carer when their son or daughter aged 10–17 years is convicted of an offence or is subject to a Criminal Behaviour Order or Sex Offender Order; or where a Child Safety Order is made; or where a parent has been convicted of failing to make sure that the young person attends school. Parenting orders can be imposed on parents either as an attachment to their child's sentence or as an attachment to a sentence they themselves have received. These data come from the Court Proceedings Database held by MoJ.

In the year ending March 2016, 250 parents were issued with parenting orders by the courts, of which 190 were attached to young people's sentences and 60 issued to adults directly as part of their sentence. The number fell by 11%, from 280 in the

year ending March 2015. Since the year ending March 2006 the number of people sentenced to parenting orders has fallen by 73% (from 930 to 250).

Chapter 6: Use of remand for young people

This chapter covers information on the use of remand for young people in the Youth Justice System (YJS). When the court makes the decision to remand a young person they have a number of options, including custodial remands, community remands including remand to local authority accommodation or a range of bail options (see the Glossary for more details on remand types).

Data for this chapter are gathered from a number of sources and covers:

1. Types of remand⁵¹ given to young people as reported by Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) from the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF)⁵²;
2. Characteristics of the population in custody on custodial remand from the YJB's eAsset system (see data sources for more information);
3. Outcomes for young people following custodial remand from the Court Proceedings Database.

Key findings

- There were 16,300 sentencing occasions involving remand episodes⁵³ given by the courts for young people in the year ending March 2016, down by 12% on the year ending March 2015 and 51% on the year ending March 2011⁵⁴. Remand decisions that involved young people being bailed (conditional or unconditional bail) accounted for 87% of all remand episodes.
- Of all remand episodes, 9% involved young people being remanded to custody, which is an increase of 2% compared to the year ending March 2015 and a decrease of 57% compared to the year ending March 2011.
- The average remand population in custody in the year ending March 2016 was 210 young people, accounting for 22% of the average custodial population, the same proportion as the year ending March 2006 when the average population in custody on remand was 620.
- For those young people remanded to custody in year ending March 2016, 64% were not sentenced to immediate custody following their remand. This is made up of 27% that were acquitted and 38% that were given a non-custodial sentence⁵⁵.

⁵¹ Including conditional and unconditional bail, community remand and remand to custody.

⁵² Based on data extracted from YJAF taken in December 2016.

⁵³ The total number of sentencing occasions with substantive remand.

⁵⁴ 10 year comparison not available.

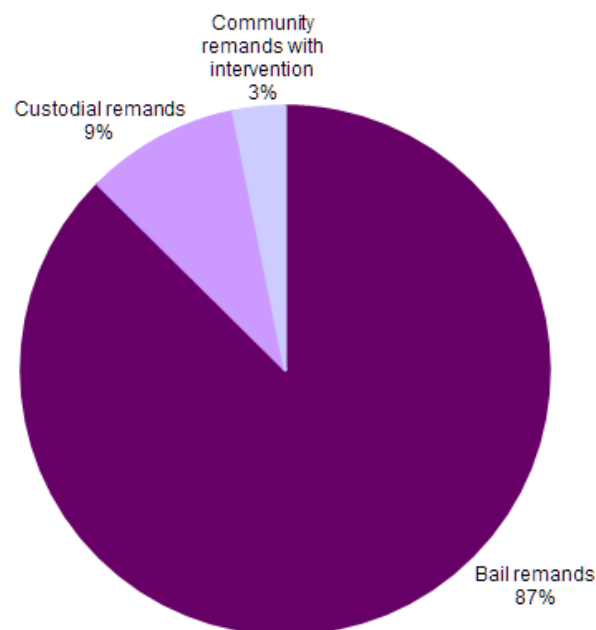
⁵⁵ This data excludes those magistrates' courts custodial remands committed to the Crown Court for trial or sentence.

6.1 Types of remand given to young people

In the year ending March 2016 there were 16,300 court sentencing occasions where young people were given a type of substantive remand as part of the court process. This could be bail, remand in the community or in custody. This is a reduction of 12% from the 18,400 sentencing occasions with a substantive remand in the year ending March 2015. Of the 16,300 occasions in the year ending March 2016 where young people were given a type of remand:

- 1,500 were custodial remand episodes, an increase of 2% compared with the year ending March 2015 and a decrease of 57% from the year ending March 2011;
- 550 were community remand episodes (with an intervention), down 43% compared with the year ending March 2015 and down 68% since the year ending March 2011;
- 14,200 were bail remand episodes (conditional and unconditional), down 11% compared with the year ending March 2015 and down 49% since the year ending March 2011.

Figure 6.1: Type of remand decisions for young people, year ending March 2016⁵⁶



⁵⁶ Percentages do not sum due to rounding.

6.2 Characteristics of the population in custody on remand

This data comes from the eAsset database which consists of data from the youth secure estate. For more information on the general youth population in custody see [Chapter 7](#).

There was an average of 210 young people in custody on remand at any one time in the year ending March 2016. The majority (70%) were remanded to custody in a Young Offender Institution (YOI).

Young people held on remand accounted for 22% of the average custody population in the year ending March 2016, compared with 23% in the year ending March 2015.

Most young people in custody on remand were there for more serious offence groups, including; 39% for violence against the person offences, 22% for robbery and 11% for sexual offences.

The average (mean) time spent on remand was 59 days in the year ending March 2016; which was an increase from 53 days compared with the year ending March 2015⁵⁷ ([Chapter 7](#)).

Of the average population in custody on remand in year ending March 2016:

- Half (50%) were aged 17;
- 96% were male;
- 50% were White, 49% were from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background, and 26% were Black⁵⁸. This compares with 72% of FTEs who were White and 19% who were from a BAME background (though it should be noted 9% of FTE's ethnicity was not known).

6.3 Outcomes for young people following custodial remand

Not all young people given a custodial remand were subsequently given a custodial sentence. Data from the Ministry of Justice's Court Proceedings Database shows the outcomes for young people remanded into custody.

For those young people given a custodial remand in year ending March 2016, 64% were given a non-custodial outcome following their remand. This is made up of 27% that were acquitted and 38% that were given a non-custodial sentence⁵⁹. (30% community sentences and 8% other sentences). The percentage of young people not given a custodial sentence following a custodial remand has decreased slightly

⁵⁷ Please note there has been a change in the methodology for how these figures are produced since last year's publication. Please the explanatory notes for further details.

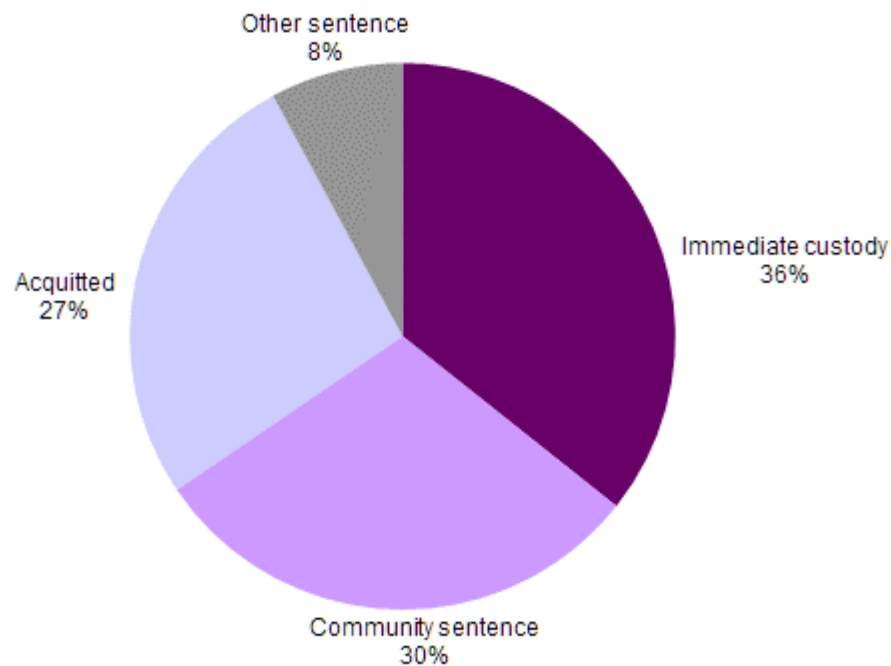
⁵⁸ The remaining 1% of young people's ethnicity was unknown.

⁵⁹ These data exclude those magistrates' courts custodial remands committed to the Crown Court for trial or sentence.

from the year ending March 2015 when 66% of young people were given a non-custodial outcome following a custodial remand.

The proportion of young people on a custodial remand who did not receive a custodial sentence was higher in magistrates' courts (79%) than the Crown Court (40%).

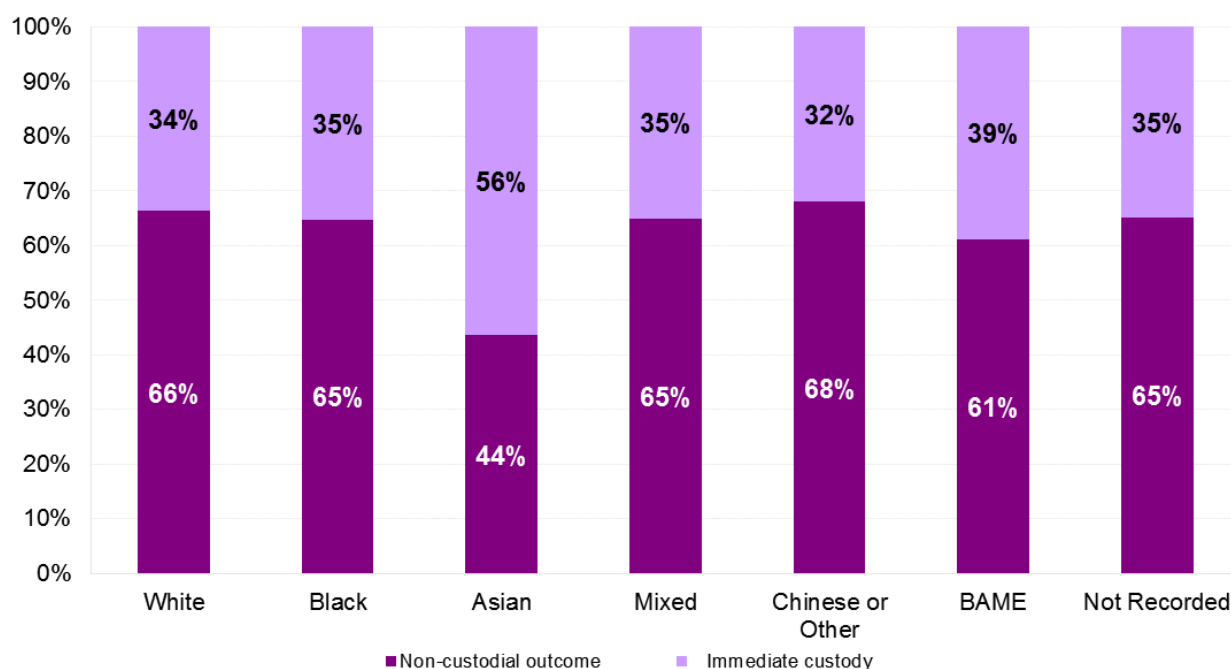
Figure 6.2: Outcomes following custodial remand, year ending March 2016⁶⁰



The proportion of White young people given a non-custodial outcome was 66% following a custodial remand. This compares to 44% of Asian young people given a non-custodial outcome following a custodial remand.

⁶⁰ Percentages do not sum due to rounding.

Figure 6.3 Outcomes for young people on custodial remand⁶¹, by ethnicity as a percentage of total, year ending March 2016



⁶¹ Including those remanded in custody at any stage of proceedings at magistrates' courts or at the Crown Court who may also have been given bail at some stage of those proceedings.

Chapter 7: Young people in custody in the youth secure estate

This chapter provides data on the average population of young people in custody in the youth secure estate, both remanded and sentenced as well as the average time spent in custody. These data do not include young people in police custody. Each month a snapshot of the custodial population is taken on a specific date and an average, based on the 12 snapshots in the year, is calculated. This number represents the average population of young people in custody in the year.

The snapshot is from the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) eAsset database, which covers all three sectors of the youth secure estate: Young Offender Institutions (YOIs), Secure Children's Homes (SCHs) and Secure Training Centres (STCs)⁶². The YJB changed to eAsset in March 2012; data prior to this date are from the Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS) database. Due to the different recording systems, there may be some discontinuity between the years ending March 2012 and March 2013.

The YJB is only responsible for placing 10-17 year olds. However, to avoid disrupting their regimes, young people aged over 17 remain in the youth secure estate if they have only a short period of their sentence left to serve. The data presented here are for the under 18 population only. Information including 18 year olds is available in the accompanying Excel supplementary tables.

This chapter covers data from the years ending March 2006 to March 2016. We also publish provisional data from April 2016 in the monthly Youth Custody Statistics, available at www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-custody-data.

Alongside this statistical release, we have published new information on the key characteristics and needs of young people. This supplementary analytical paper is available at www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-statistics-2015-to-2016.

Key findings

- There have been continued reductions in the average population of young people in custody. In the year ending March 2016, there was an average of 960 young people in custody. This is a reduction of 8% from the previous year and 66% from the year ending March 2006.
- The proportion of young people in custody for more serious offences has increased. In particular, the proportion of young people in custody for violence against the person offences, robbery and sexual offences has increased from 52% in the year ending March 2011⁶³ to 68% in the year ending March 2016.

⁶² See Glossary for a description of the different types of custodial establishment.

⁶³ 10 year comparison not available.

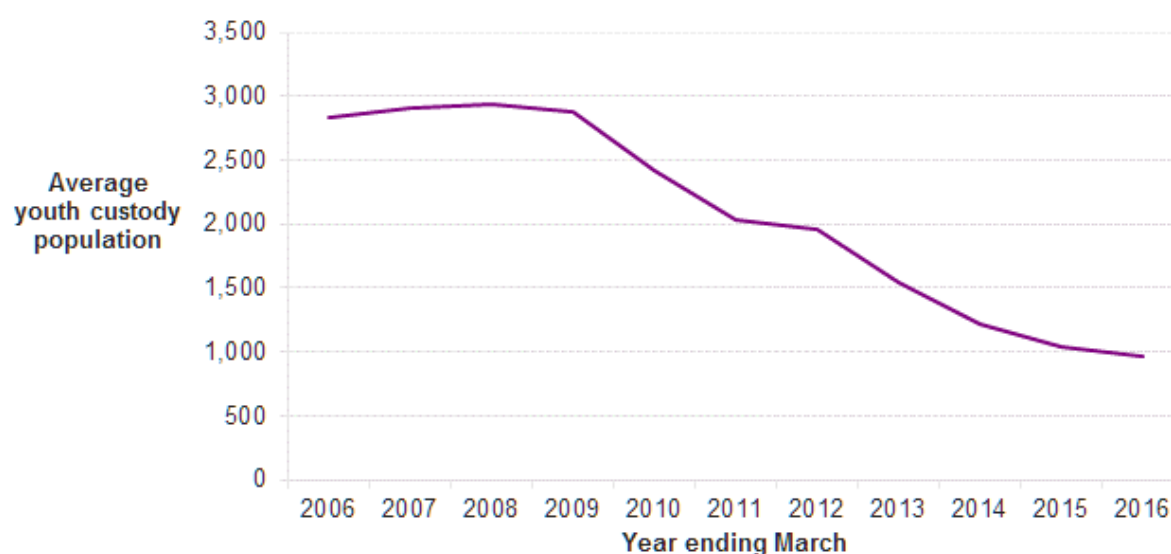
The greatest increase has been in the proportion of young people in custody for violence against the person offences which has seen a 10 percentage point increase since the year ending March 2011 (from 24% to 34%).

- The proportion of young people serving a Detention and Training Order (DTO) has decreased from 61% in the year ending March 2006 compared with 52% in the year ending March 2016, while the proportion serving a Section 91 sentence has increased (from 15% in the year ending March 2006 to 21% in the year ending March 2016).

7.1 Average youth custody population

The average population of young people in custody has continued to reduce. In the year ending March 2016, there were 960 young people in custody. This is a reduction of 8% from the previous year when there was an average of 1,000 young people in custody and a reduction of 66% from the year ending March 2006, when there was an average of 2,800 young people in custody.

Figure 7.1: Average youth custody population, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



7.2 Legal basis for detention for young people in custody

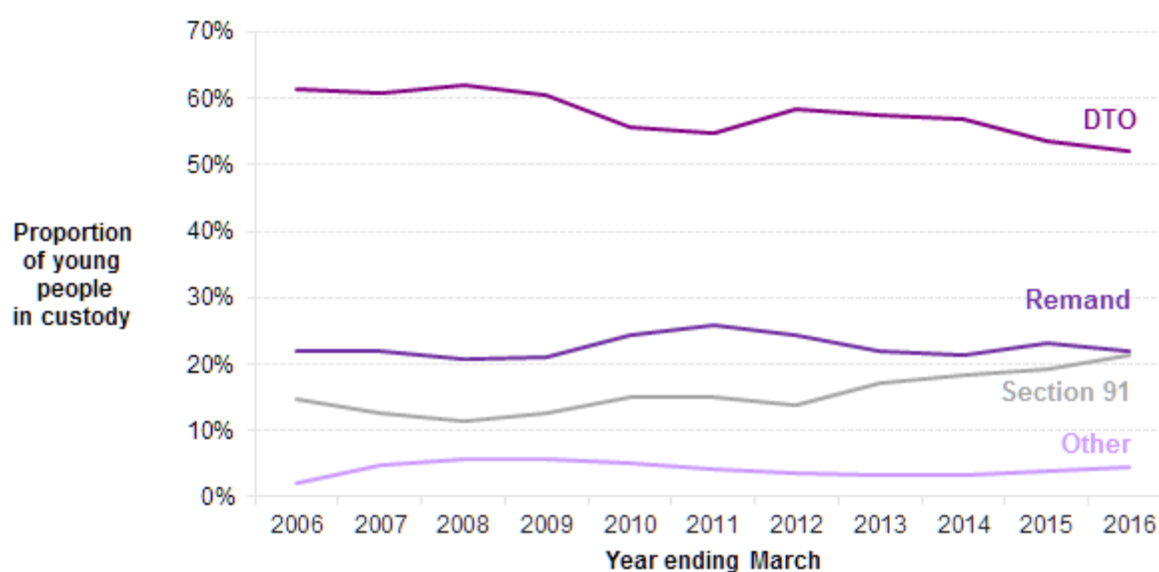
Information on legal basis for detention relate to the most precedent legal basis⁶⁴ that a young person has. See the Glossary for more details on the legal basis.

⁶⁴ A young person may have multiple custodial orders simultaneously, legal basis refers to the most precedent custodial order.

Just over half (52%) of the young people in custody in the year ending March 2016 were serving a DTO. A further 22% were on remand and another 21% were on a Section 91 sentence. The remaining 4% were serving other sentences^{65,66}.

In general, compared with the year ending March 2006 the distribution of the proportion of these sentences has been changing. The proportion of young people serving a DTO has been decreasing (from 61% to 52%), while the proportion serving a Section 91 sentence has been increasing (from 15% to 21%) and is now comparable with the proportion on remand.

Figure 7.2: Under 18 custodial population by legal basis for detention as a proportion of total, years ending March 2006 to March 2016



7.3 Offences resulting in young people going into custody

Most young people held in custody in the year ending March 2016 were there for violence against the person offences (34%) and robbery offences (25%).

Just as there has been a decline in the average number of young people held in custody, there has also been a decline in the average number of young people in each offence group since the year ending March 2011⁶⁷.

In the last year however, the average number of young people in custody for some offence groups has increased. Most noticeable were drug offences where the number increased by 32%; however this group only represent 8% of young people in

⁶⁵ Percentages do not sum due to rounding.

⁶⁶ Other sentences include those serving Detention for Public Protection (section 226), Extended Determinate Sentence (section 226B), Detention at her Majesty's Pleasure (section 90) and those detained under civil matters. See Glossary for full details.

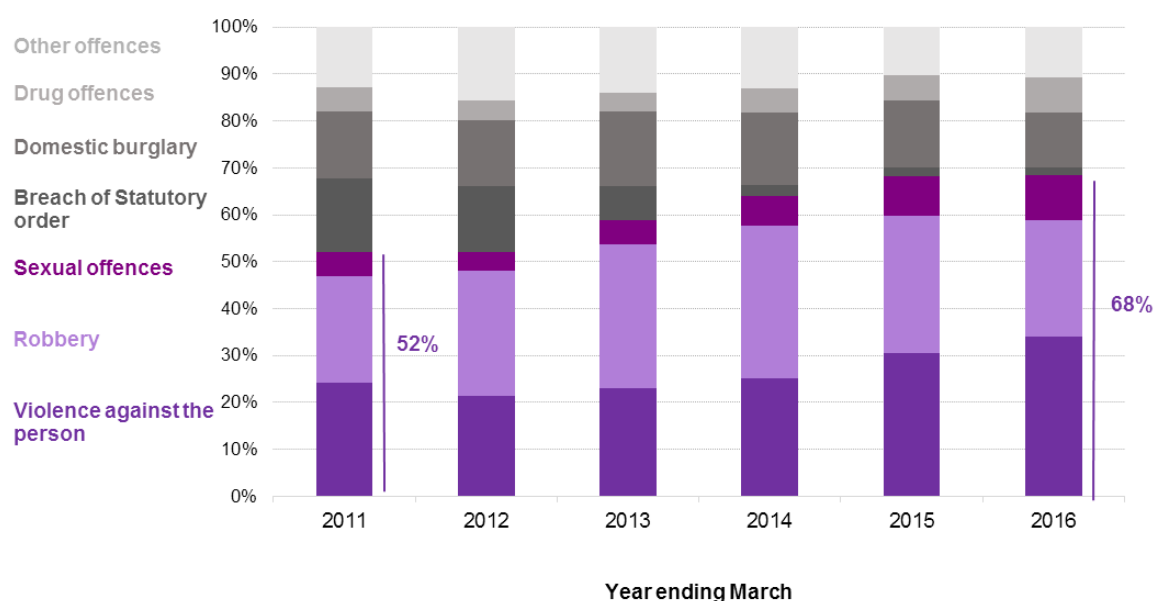
⁶⁷ 10 year comparison not available.

custody. There were also slight increases for sexual offences (6%) and violence against the person (3%).

Compared with the year ending March 2011, the proportion of young people in custody for more serious offences has increased. Specifically, the proportion for violence against the person, robbery and sexual offences have increased from 52% in the year ending March 2011 to 68% in the year ending March 2016. The greatest increase has been in the proportion of young people in custody for violence against the person offences which has seen a 10 percentage point increase since the year ending March 2011 (from 24% to 34%). The proportion for drug offences also increased over this period (from 5% to 8%).

The most noticeable decrease in the proportion of young people held in custody since the year ending March 2011 was for breach of statutory order. This has reduced from 16% to 2% but a change in data recording between different administrative systems may account for a large part of this decrease⁶⁸. Over this period, the proportion also decreased slightly for young people held in custody for domestic burglary and 'Other' offences⁶⁹.

Figure 7.3: Proportion of young people in custody by offence group, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



⁶⁸ Within the SACHS administrative system, the offence group for Breaches of DTO were recorded as Breach of Statutory Order, however, within eAsset the original offence of the DTO is recorded.

⁶⁹ The offence groups counted under Other offences are: arson, breach of bail, criminal damage, death or injury by dangerous driving, fraud and forgery, motoring offences, non-domestic burglary, not known, other, public order, racially aggravated, theft and handling stolen goods, vehicle theft/unauthorised taking.

7.4 Demographic characteristics of young people in custody

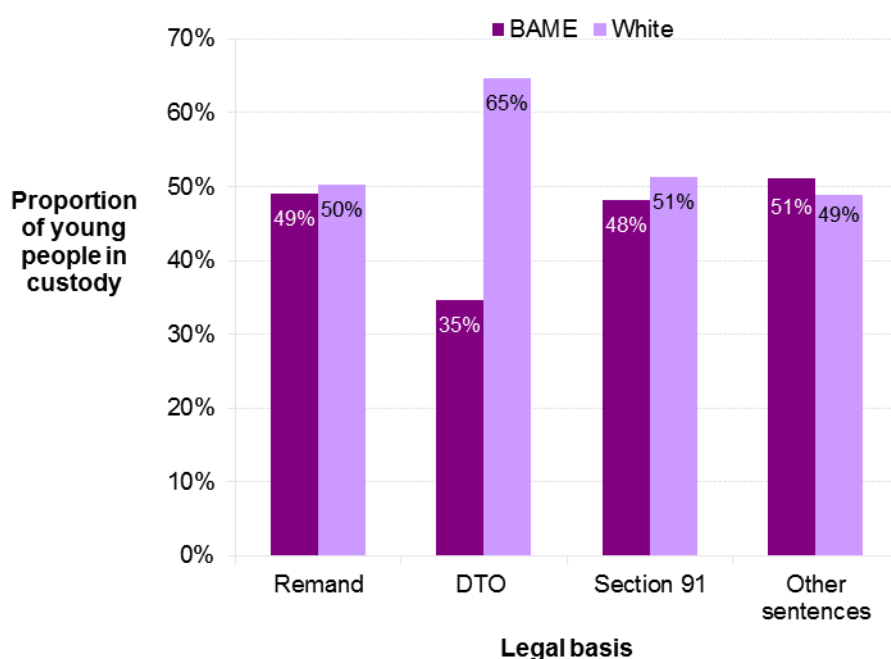
In the year ending March 2016, most (96%) of the young people in custody were male. In addition, the majority (96%) were aged 15-17 and over half (54%) were aged 17.

In terms of ethnic group, the majority of young people (58%) were White⁷⁰. Young people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups accounted for 41% of the young people in custody⁷¹; those from a Black ethnic background accounted for 21%.

There was variation in the ethnicity of young people by their legal basis of detention.

Young people in custody from a BAME group made up almost half of those held on remand. White young people made up 65% of those serving DTOs, compared to 35% for BAME young people.

Figure 7.4: Proportion of young people in custody by ethnic group and legal basis for detention, year ending March 2016⁷²



Alongside this statistical release, we have published new information on the key characteristics and needs of young people in custody. This supplementary analytical

⁷⁰ Ethnicity data is self-reported.

⁷¹ There was 1% of young people with unknown ethnicity.

⁷² Proportion of remand does not add up to 100%. This is because young people whose ethnicity is unknown has not been included as a data series but has been included within the total.

paper is available at www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-justice-statistics-2015-to-2016.

7.5 Location for young people held in custody

In the year ending March 2016, most young people held in custody (68%) were in under-18 YOIs⁷³, 20% were in STCs and the remaining 11% in SCHs⁷⁴. See Glossary for more information.

For young people in custody, the region of the secure establishment young people are placed in is not always the same as the region of their attached YOT due to the geographical location of secure establishments.

In the year ending March 2016, the largest proportion (27%) of young people in custody were those attached to a London YOT. There is one secure establishment in London and it accommodated 13% of the total custodial population⁷⁵. In the same period, 28% of the young people in custody were held in one of the three establishments located in Yorkshire⁷⁶ however only 9% of young people in custody were attached to a YOT from Yorkshire. A very similar proportion (27%) of young people in custody were in one of four establishments in the South East⁷⁷.

It is not always possible to place young people in an establishment close to their home/attached YOT as placement decisions are determined by a number of factors, including the risks and needs of individual young people and available capacity at establishments.

⁷³ All female YOIs were decommissioned in July and August 2013, therefore any 17 and 18 year old females that remain in the youth secure estate will be held in STCs or SCHs.

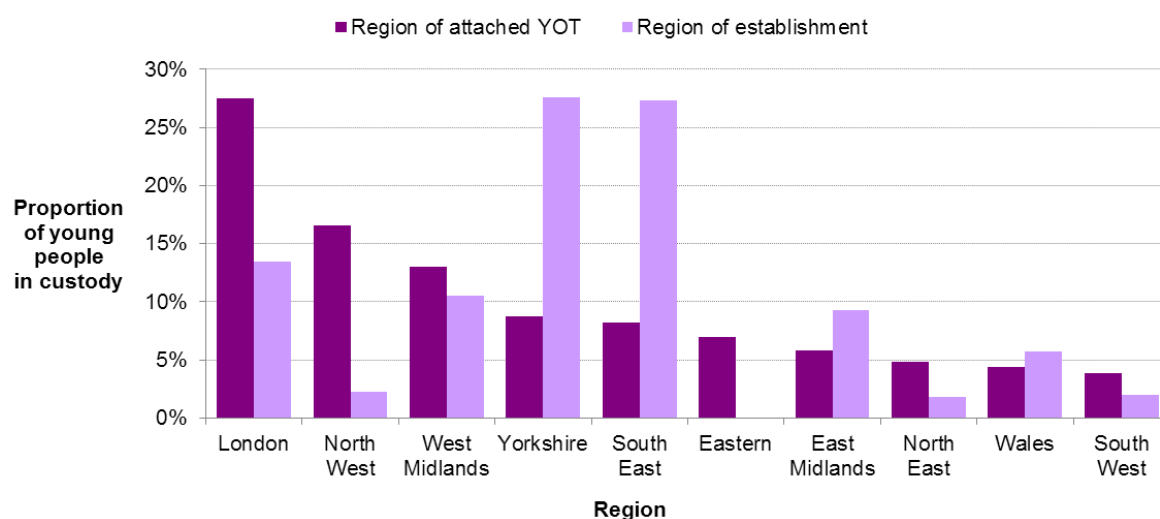
⁷⁴ Proportions do not add up to 100% due to rounding.

⁷⁵ Feltham YOI is the only London establishment, and holds young males aged 15-17 sentenced or remanded to Youth Detention Accommodation, as well as sentenced young adults aged 18 - 21.

⁷⁶ There are three establishments in Yorkshire: Wetherby YOI, West Yorkshire; Adel Beck SCH, Leeds and Aldine SCH, Sheffield.

⁷⁷ There are four establishments in the South East region: Cookham Wood YOI, Kent; Medway STC, Kent; Oakhill STC, Hertfordshire; and Swanwick Lodge SCH, Hampshire.

Figure 7.5: Proportion of young people in custody by region of attached YOT and region of establishment, year ending March 2016⁷⁸



7.6 Time in days spent in the youth secure estate for young people

The figures in this section refer to the time in days young people spend within the youth secure estate. This report presents two figures: the average time a young person spent in custody in a **single custodial episode** (regardless of any changes in legal basis) and the average length of time spent **according to the legal basis for detention**.

In previous publications, the time spent excluded custodial episodes for young people who turned 18 before they left the youth secure estate. In this publication, we have included these young people's custodial episodes up until the young person's 18th birthday. As young people serving longer term sentences are more likely to reach their 18th birthday in custody, due to the length of their sentence, this new approach results in averages that are higher than previously published. Due to the change in methodology, analysis for years prior to the year ending March 2013 is not available. See Explanatory Notes for further details.

The average (mean) number of days a young person spent in custody in a single episode was 118 days in the year ending March 2016. This is an increase of eight days from 110 days in the year ending March 2015.

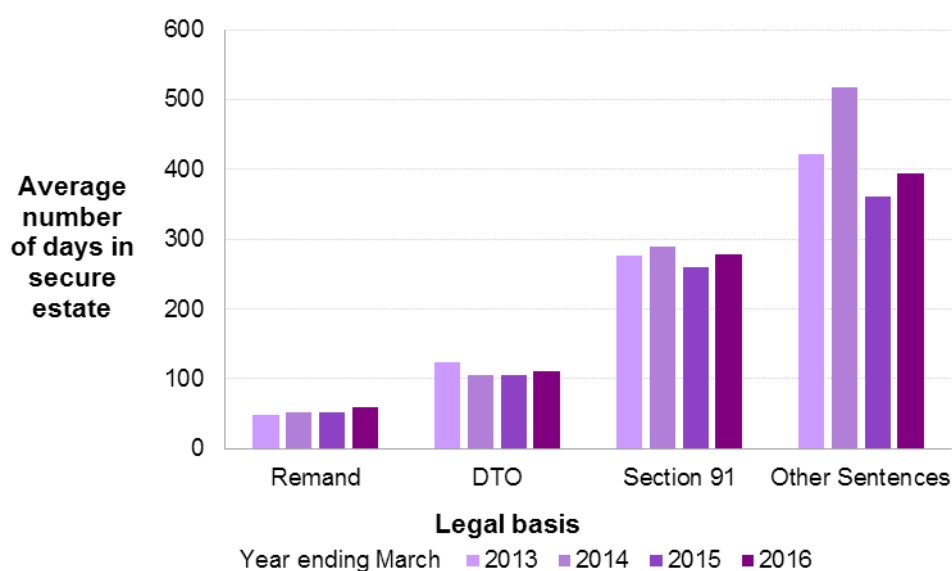
⁷⁸ There were no custodial establishments in the Eastern Region in the year ending March 2016.

In the year ending March 2016, the average (mean) time young people spent:

- solely on remand⁷⁹ was 59 days;
- with a DTO⁸⁰ was 112 days;
- on a Section 91 sentence was 278 days, and
- for other sentences⁸¹ was 394 days.

The average (mean) length of time has increased compared with the previous year for each legal basis.

Figure 7.6: Average time in days spent in custody by legal basis of detention, years ending March 2013 to March 2016



⁷⁹ Young people may have continued to be remanded for some matters whilst sentenced for others.

⁸⁰ This represents the time the young person spent in the secure estate with a DTO as their most serious type of legal basis. They may have received a different sentence which may have taken precedence as their legal basis, therefore the figures may not represent the full length of the custodial part of their DTO. The length does not include the period of DTO's served in the community.

⁸¹ Other sentences include those serving Detention for Public Protection (section 226), Extended Determinate Sentence (section 226B), Detention at her Majesty's Pleasure (section 90) and those detained under civil matters. See Glossary for full details.

Chapter 8: Behaviour management in the secure estate

This chapter covers information on behaviour management in the youth secure estate. “Behaviour management” refers to the processes and policies by which youth secure establishments manage challenging and difficult behaviour amongst young people. The data include some 18 year olds who are held in the youth secure estate.

The first section of this chapter covers the use of restrictive physical intervention (RPI) on young people, incidents of self harm, assaults and the use of single separation⁸² involving young people in custody in all establishments⁸³. The data cover the years ending March 2011 to the year ending March 2016⁸⁴.

The second section covers the use of force as recorded under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) system. MMPR is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in Secure Training Centres (STCs) and under-18 Young Offender Institutions (YOIs).

The terms use of force and restrictive physical intervention can be used synonymously within practice. However, within this publication they have distinct definitions and counting rules as to the techniques and levels of physical intervention used. Within the establishments that have implemented the MMPR system, the use of all physical intervention will be measured and counted against the use of force definition and counting rules, whether or not they involve the use of MMPR techniques. Under the RPI definition and counting rules, only those physical interventions which are restrictive are counted.

MMPR techniques had been implemented in six out of eight STCs and YOIs⁸⁵ by March 2016. Two out of the six establishments do not have the full 12 months of data for the year ending March 2016 due to MMPR being rolled out in these establishments part way through the year.

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2016 number of incidents of RPI decreased by 11% compared with the year ending March 2015, however in the same period there were increases in the number of incidents of self harm, assault and single separation (self harm by 5%, assaults by 6%, single separation by

⁸² Single separation data is only collected from Secure Children’s Homes and Secure Training Centres.

⁸³ From the year ending March 2011 to the year ending March 2016 the overall population in custody in the secure estate fell ([Chapter 7](#)), which means it is important to look at the change in the rate (the number of incidents per 100 young people in the population of the secure estate), as well as the raw numbers. Full information can be found in the supplementary tables.

⁸⁴ 10 year comparison not available.

⁸⁵ MMPR went live at Rainsbrook STC on 4 March 2013, Oakhill STC on 2 September 2013, Medway STC on 2 June 2014, Wetherby YOI on 23 October 2013, Werrington YOI on 19 May 2015 and Cookham Wood YOI on 1 July 2015.

34%). There were decreases in the number of incidents of RPI, self harm, assault and single separation compared with the year ending March 2011 (RPIs by 40%, self harm by 3%, assaults by 14% and single separation by 45%).

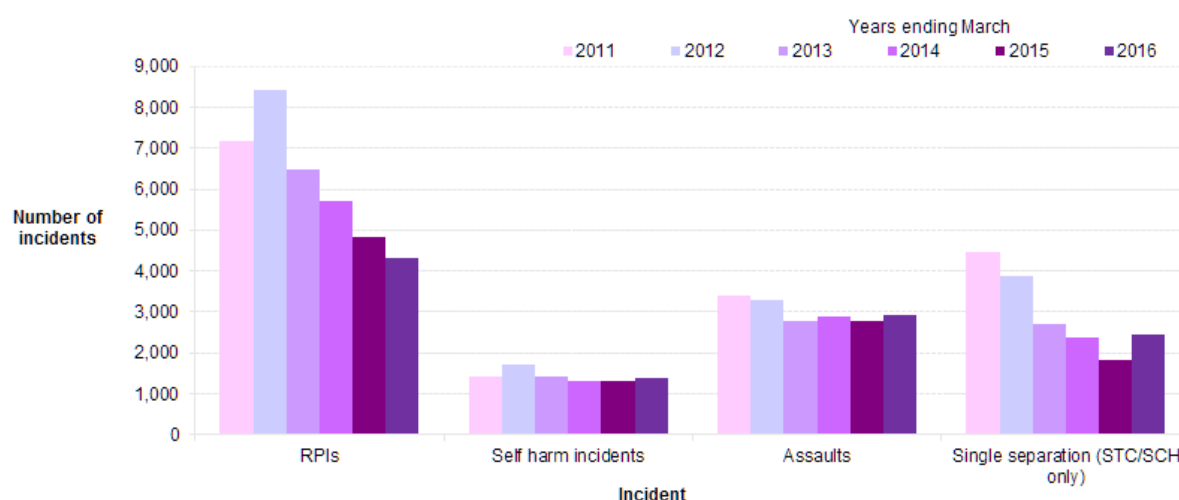
- In the year ending March 2016, the rate of RPIs per 100 young people decreased slightly compared with the year ending March 2015 and increased compared with the year ending March 2011 (a decrease from 28.2 in the year ending March 2015 and an increase from 20.5 in the year ending March 2011 to 27.8 in the year ending March 2016).
- In the year ending March 2016, the rate of self harm incidents per 100 young people has continued to increase compared with both the year ending March 2015 and March 2011 (from 7.7 in the year ending March 2015 and 4.1 in the year ending March 2011 to 8.9 in the year ending March 2016).
- In the year ending March 2016, the rate of assaults per 100 young people increased compared with both the year ending March 2015 and March 2011 (from 16.2 in the year ending March 2015 and 9.7 in the year ending March 2011 to 18.9 in the year ending March 2016).
- In the year ending March 2016, the rate of single separation incidents per 100 young people in Secure Training Centres (STCs) and Secure Children's Homes (SCHs) increased compared with the year ending March 2015 and decreased compared with the year ending March 2011 (up from 35.5 in the year ending March 2015 and down from 64.5 in the year ending March 2011 to 52.3 in the year ending March 2016).
- There were a total of 3,100 use of force incidents across the six establishments for the year ending March 2016. This gives an average of 30.3 incidents per 100 young people in the six secure establishments per month.
- MMAP techniques were involved in 2,300 of the incidents (73% of the total).

8.1 Trends in behaviour management incidents in the youth secure estate

Due to the way the data are collected we are unable to link incidents to individual young people therefore we cannot provide a distribution of incidents per young people (in other words how many people were only involved in any one incident).

In the year ending March 2016 number of incidents of RPI decreased by 11% compared with the year ending March 2015, however in the same period there were increases in the number of incidents of self harm, assault and single separation (self harm by 5%, assaults by 6% and single separation by 34%). There were decreases in the number of incidents of RPI, self harm, assault and single separation compared with the year ending March 2011 (RPIs by 40%, self harm by 3%, assaults by 14% and single separation by 45%).

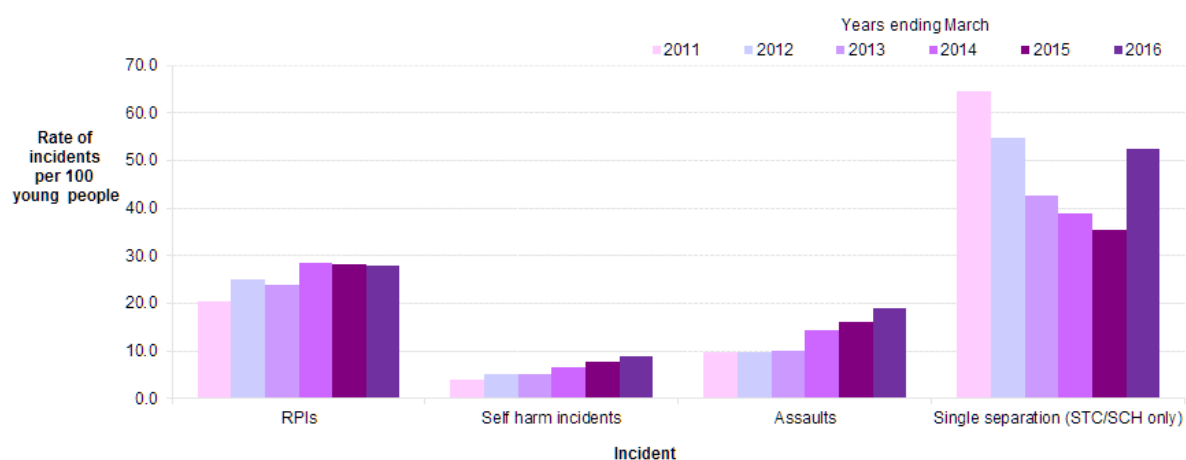
Figure 8.1 Trend in the number of behaviour management incidents in the secure estate, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



Compared with the previous year, the rate of incidents per 100 young people for RPI decreased from 28.2 to 27.8, however there were increases in self harm, assault and single separation (from 7.7 to 8.9 for self harm, from 16.2 to 18.9 for assaults and from 35.5 to 52.3 for single separation).

The rate of incidents of RPI, self harm and assault per 100 young people have all increased compared with the year ending March 2011 and decreased for single separation. They have increased from 20.5 to 27.8 for RPI, from 4.1 to 8.9 for self harm and from 9.7 to 18.9 for assaults. The rate decreased from 64.5 to 52.3 for single separation.

Figure 8.2 Trend in the rate of behaviour management incidents per 100 young people in custody in the secure estate, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



8.2 Use of Restrictive Physical Intervention (RPI)

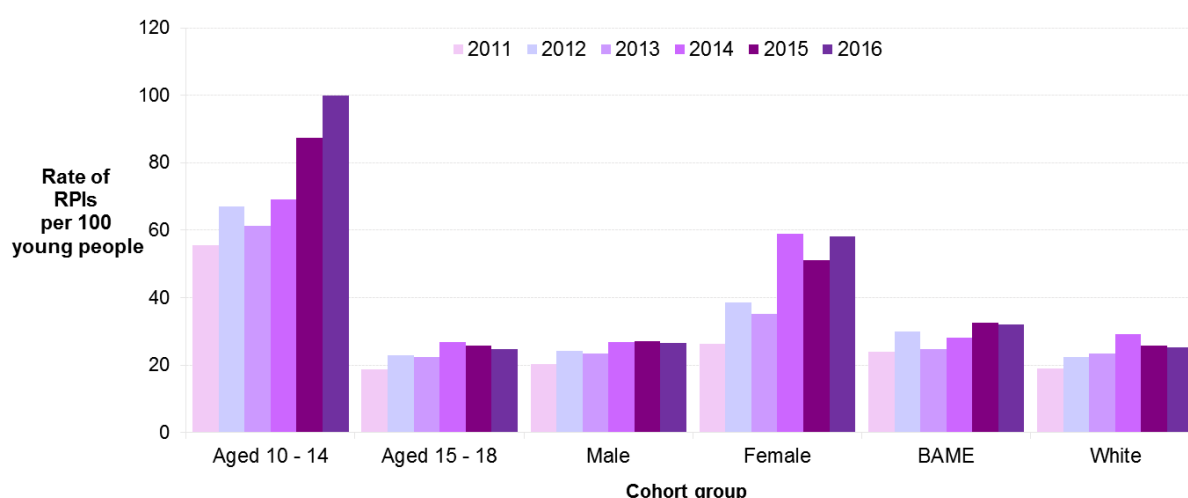
An RPI is defined as “any occasion when force is used with the intention of overpowering or to overpower a young person”. Overpower is defined as “restricting movement or mobility”. RPIs should only be used on young people as a last resort, for example to prevent them causing harm to themselves or others.

The number of RPIs has continued to fall. There were 4,300 RPIs in the year ending March 2016, down by 11% compared with the year ending March 2015 and by 40% compared to the year ending March 2011.

The rate of RPIs per 100 young people decreased slightly compared with the year ending March 2015 (from 28.2 RPIs per 100 young people to 27.8 in the year ending March 2016). There was an increase compared with the year ending March 2011 (20.5 RPIs per 100 young people to 27.8 in the year ending March 2016).

The rate of RPIs per 100 young people in custody was higher for the younger age group (10-14), females and young people who were from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups than other cohort groups⁸⁶, which is consistent with previous years.

Figure 8.3: Rate of RPIs per 100 young people in custody, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



In the year ending March 2016, there were 90 RPIs involving injury to young people that required medical treatment. This represents 2% of the total number of RPIs recorded, the same proportion as in the previous year and a decrease from 4% in the year ending March 2011. The majority of these were minor injuries requiring medical treatment accounting for 97% of the total injuries requiring medical treatment, while 3% were serious injuries that required hospital treatment. There

⁸⁶ RPI data from bespoke returns is based on self-reported ethnicity.

were 20% fewer injuries requiring medical treatment to young people following an RPI than in the year ending March 2015.

8.3 Self harm by young people in custody

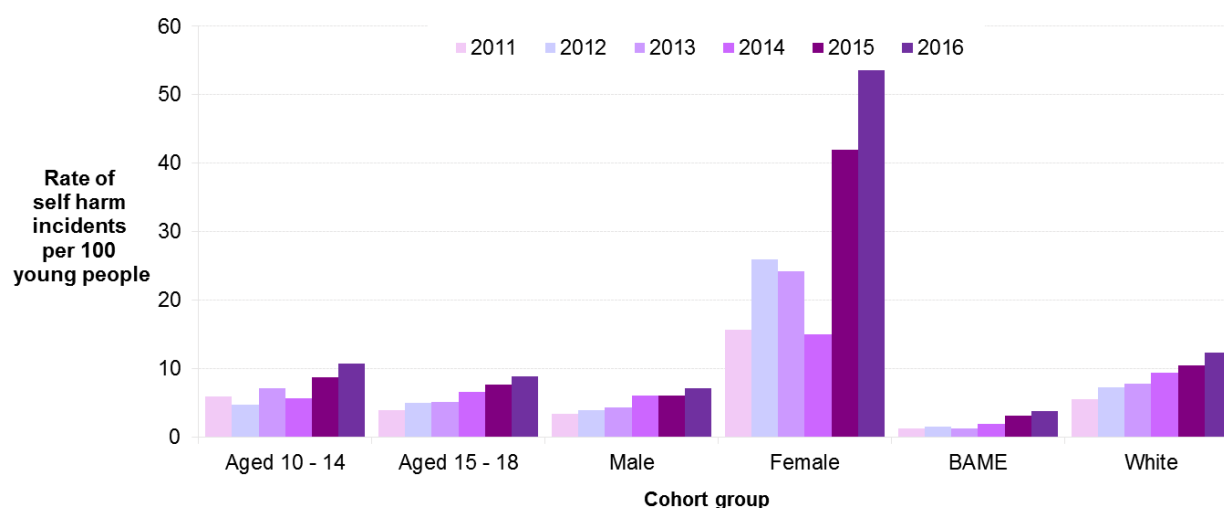
Self harm in custody is defined as “any act by which a young person deliberately harms themselves irrespective of the method, intent or severity of any injury”.

There were 1,400 incidents of self harm in the year ending March 2016, up by 5% compared with the year ending March 2015 and down by 3% compared with the year ending March 2011.

However, the rate of self harm incidents per 100 young people in custody in the year ending March 2016 has increased, both compared with the year ending March 2015 and the year ending March 2011. In the year ending March 2016, the rate was 8.9 incidents per 100 young people, up from 7.7 per 100 in the year ending March 2015 and up from 4.1 per 100 in the year ending March 2011.

The rate of self harm incidents per 100 young people in custody was markedly higher for females than males and for White young people compared with BAME young people⁸⁷.

Figure 8.4: Rate of self harm incidents per 100 young people in custody, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



In the year ending March 2016, there were 190 incidents of self harm that resulted in injury requiring medical treatment, of which 92% were minor injuries requiring medical treatment and 8% required hospital treatment. There were 15% more injuries requiring medical treatment to young people following a self harm incident than in the year ending March 2015.

⁸⁷ Self harm data from bespoke returns are based on self-reported ethnicity.

8.4 Assaults involving young people in custody

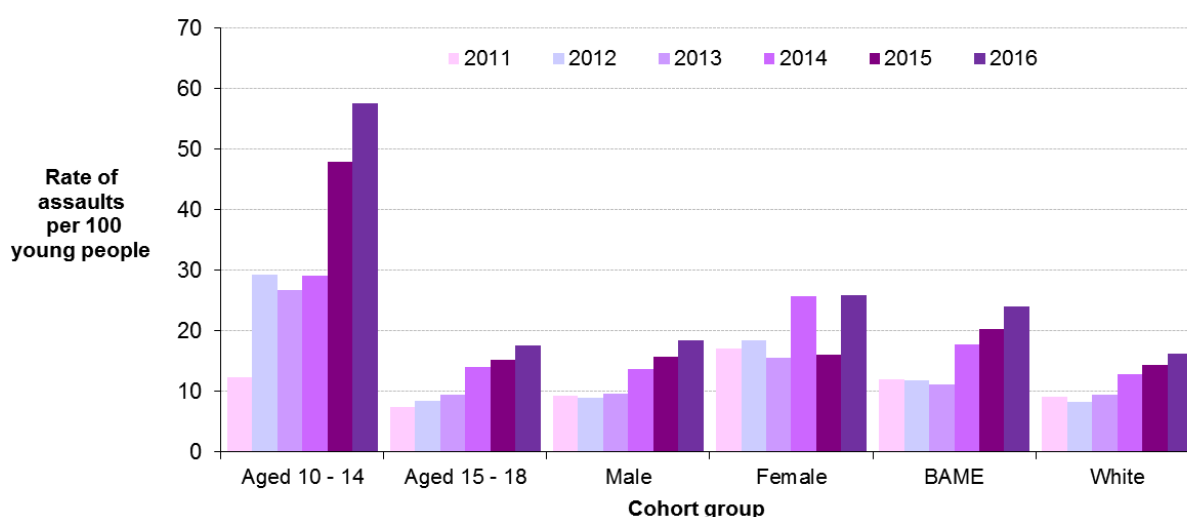
Assaults are defined as “the intentional use of unnecessary force that results in physical contact with the victim”.

There were 2,900 assaults in the year ending March 2016, up 6% compared with the year ending March 2015 and down by 14% compared with the year ending March 2011.

In the year ending March 2016, the rate of assaults per 100 young people increased compared with both the year ending March 2015 and March 2011 (from 16.2 in the year ending March 2015 and 9.7 in the year ending March 2011 to 18.9 in the year ending March 2016). The rate of assaults per 100 young people in custody was higher for the younger age group (10-14 year olds), BAME young people and females than other cohort groups⁸⁸.

The victim of an assault can be either another young person or a staff member or visitor. There were 1,700 incidents of assault where the victim was a young person, down by 3% since the year ending March 2015 and down by 19% since the year ending March 2011. There were 1,100 incidents of assault where the victim was a staff member or visitor. This is up by 10% since the year ending March 2015 and down by 14% since the year ending March 2011.

Figure 8.5: Rate of assault per 100 young people in custody, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



There were 180 incidents of assault which resulted in injury requiring medical treatment to young people, of which 86% were minor requiring medical treatment and 14% were serious and required hospital treatment. There were 11% fewer

⁸⁸ Assaults data from bespoke returns are based on self-reported ethnicity.

injuries requiring medical treatment to young people following an assault incident than in the year ending March 2015.

8.5 Single separation in STCs and SCHs

Single separation refers to the confining of a young person in their bedroom, to another room or area as a means of control and without the young person's permission or agreement, without a member of staff being present and with the door locked in order to prevent exit. The data are only collected for STCs and SCHs.

There were 2,400 single separation incidents in the year ending March 2016, up 34% compared with the year ending March 2015 and down by 45% compared with the year ending March 2011.

The rate of single separation incidents per 100 young people in custody increased from 35.5 incidents per 100 young people in the year ending March 2015 compared with 52.3 in the year ending March 2016. However the rate decreased from 64.5 incidents per 100 young people in the year ending March 2011 to 52.3 in the year ending March 2016.

The rates of young people placed in single separation were significantly higher for 10-14 year olds and White young people⁸⁹ than for 15-18 year olds and BAME young people.

8.6 Use of force incidents in the youth secure estate

This section reports on the use of force under the Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) system. MMPR is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in STCs and under-18 YOIs. MMPR puts considerable emphasis on using appropriate de-escalation and deceleration techniques (non-physical interventions) to ensure that force is only ever used as a last resort, when no other intervention is possible or appropriate. Any physical intervention is counted as a 'use of force', unlike the RPI system which only counts those physical interventions deemed restrictive.

The YJB started collecting MMPR data from March 2013 and by the end of March 2016 MMPR techniques had been implemented in six secure establishments: three STCs (Rainsbrook, Oakhill and Medway) and three under-18 YOIs (Cookham Wood, Werrington and Wetherby). This section covers the year ending March 2016 only, a period of 12 months for four of the six secure establishments⁹⁰, and shorter periods for the other two secure establishments⁹¹. It is therefore important to note that the

⁸⁹ Single separation data from bespoke returns are based on self-reported ethnicity.

⁹⁰ Rainsbrook STC, Oakhill STC, Medway STC and Wetherby YOI.

⁹¹ Cookham Wood YOI, 9 months data (July 2015 to March 2016). Werrington YOI, 11 months data (May 2015 to March 2016).

number of months on which the averages are based varies according to the month that each establishment started using MMPR⁹².

8.7 Use of force incidents

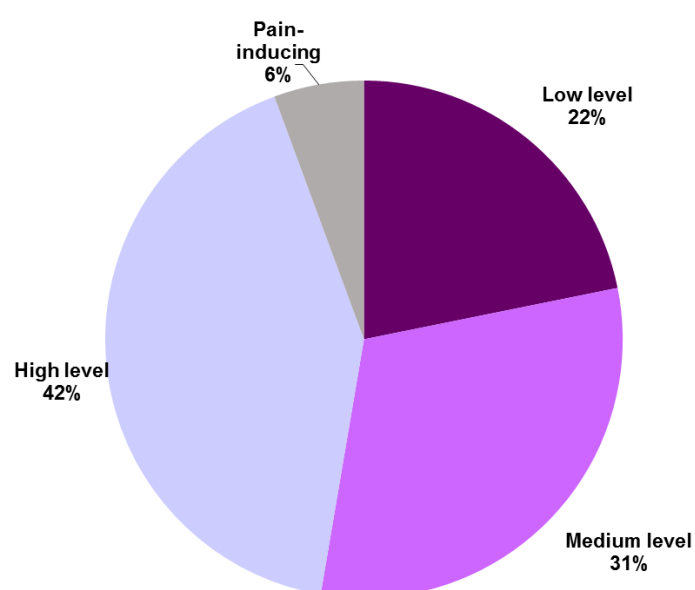
There were a total of 3,100 use of force incidents across the six secure establishments for the year ending March 2016. This gives an average of 260 incidents per month, and an average of 30.3 incidents per 100 young people in the six secure establishments per month.

8.8 MMPR Techniques⁹³ employed in use of force

MMPR techniques were involved in 73% (2,300) of all use of force incidents, which gives an average of 190 MMPR incidents per month.

42% of MMPR incidents were resolved using high-level interventions. Pain-inducing techniques⁹⁴ were involved in 6% of incidents.

Figure 8.6: Highest level technique used⁹⁵ in each MMPR incident, year ending March 2016



⁹² MMPR went live at Rainsbrook STC on 4 March 2013, Oakhill STC on 2 September 2013, Medway STC on 2 June 2014, Wetherby YOI on 23 October 2013, Werrington YOI on 19 May 2015 and Cookham Wood YOI on 1 July 2015.

⁹³ MMPR technique levels are categorised as follows: **Low level** = Guiding hold, Single embrace; **Medium level** = Isolating the arm, Figure-four arm hold, Head hold, Arm hold, Leg control; **High level** = Inverted wrist hold, Figure-four leg lock; **Pain-inducing** = Thumb flexion, Mandibular angle technique, Wrist flexion

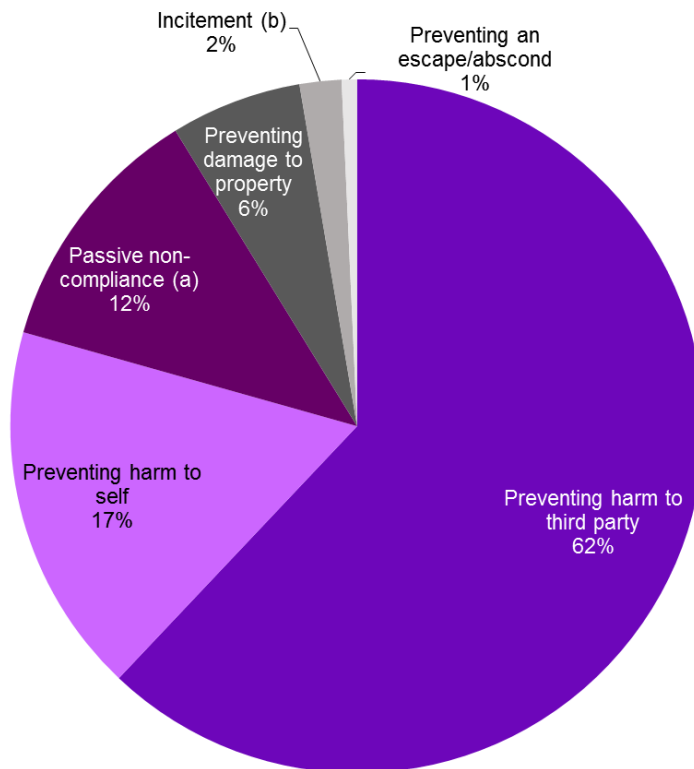
⁹⁴ The use of pain inducing techniques for the under-18 secure estate must be restricted to circumstances where it is necessary to protect a young person or others from an immediate risk of serious physical harm.

⁹⁵ Percentages do not sum due to rounding.

8.9 Reason for use of force

The most common reason reported for the use of force⁹⁶ was “preventing harm to a third party”, in 62% of incidents (2,500). In 12% of incidents (480) the reason given was “passive non-compliance”, this is only available in YOIs.

Figure 8.7 Reason for use of force, year ending March 2016



(a) Restraint for reasons of passive non-compliance is permitted in under-18 YOIs only (not in STCs).

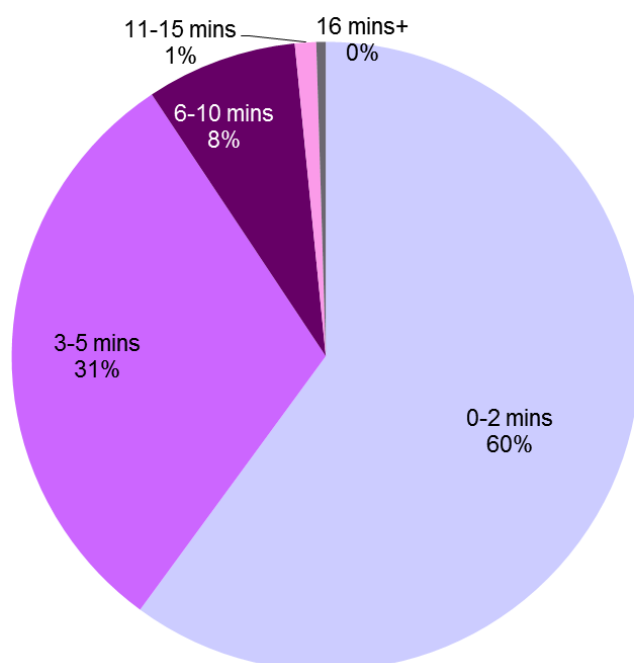
(b) Incitement (either to injure himself/herself or others, or cause damage to property)

8.10 Duration of use of force

The majority (60%) of use of force incidents across the six establishments lasted for two minutes or less. A further 31% lasted between three to five minutes, 8% between six to ten minutes, and the remaining 1% between 11 to 15 minutes. One incident lasted more than 15 minutes.

⁹⁶ There may be more than one reason for restraint in a single incident.

Figure 8.8: Duration of use of force, year ending March 2016



8.11 Handcuffs used

The use of handcuffs on young people is only available in YOIs. Handcuffs were used in 480 incidents.

8.12 Incidents involving injuries requiring medical treatment

Young people required medical treatment as a result of an injury following a use of force incident on 70 occasions (or 2% of all incidents). Of these, 68 injuries were minor requiring medical treatment and two incidents involved a serious injury requiring hospital treatment.

Medical warning signs⁹⁷ and symptoms are reported as part of the Serious Injuries and Warning Signs (SIWS) process directly to the MMPR National Team within the National Offender Management Service (NOMS). Warning signs were observed in 2% of incidents.

⁹⁷ These include: Lost or reduced consciousness, abruptly/unexpectedly stopped struggling or suddenly calmed down, blueness of lips/fingernails/ear lobes (cyanosis), tiny pin point red dots seen on the skin (upper chest, neck, face, eye lids), difficulty breathing, complaints of feeling sick, vomiting and complaints of difficulty breathing.

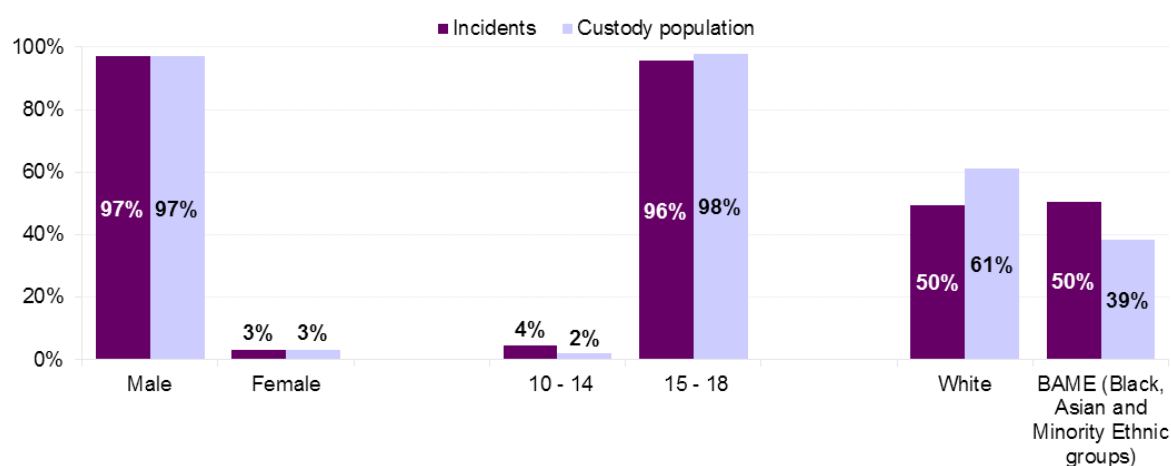
8.13 Demographic characteristics of young people involved in use of force incidents

Males accounted for 97% of the total incidents reported, which is the same as the proportion of males in the total population across the six secure establishments. Females are not placed in YOIs.

10-14 year olds⁹⁸ were involved in 4% of the total incidents reported, (while comprising 2% of the population in the six secure establishments), while 96% of the total incidents involved 15-18 year olds.

Half of the total incidents involved White young people while 61% of the population in the six secure establishments were White. Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) young people accounted for 50% of the total incidents while comprising 39% of the population in the six secure establishments.

Figure 8.9 Proportion of use of force incidents and population by demographic characteristics, year ending March 2016



⁹⁸ 10-14 year olds are not placed in YOIs.

Chapter 9: Proven reoffending by young people

This section provides key statistics on proven reoffending for young people who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court, or received a caution between April 2014 and March 2015.

A proven reoffence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction or caution either within the one year follow-up or within a further six month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court.

This chapter focuses on reoffending by young people who entered the cohort in the year ending March 2015, (and then followed up until March 2016), comparing the results with those who entered in the previous year and the year ending December 2004 as the long term comparator. The data used are from the Police National Computer database. A more detailed publication covering adult and youth reoffending is published by the Ministry of Justice and is available here:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics

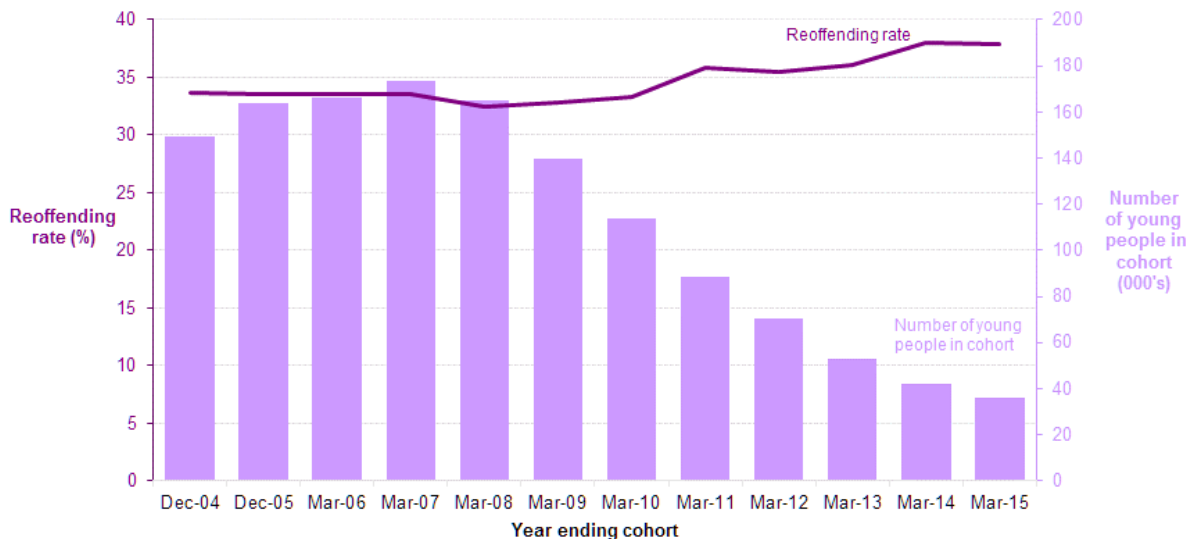
Key findings

- There were 36,300 young people who received a caution, a non-custodial conviction at court or who were released from custody in the year ending March 2015. This is the number of young people in the cohort used for reoffending statistics⁹⁹.
- Of these, 13,700 committed a proven reoffence within the one year follow-up period. This gives a proven reoffending rate of 37.9%, which is a slight decrease of 0.1 percentage point compared with the reoffending rate for the year ending March 2014 cohort and an increase of 4.3 percentage points compared with that for the 2004 cohort.
- The number of young people in the cohort (the number of reoffenders and reoffences that they committed) have gone down every year since the year ending March 2008. The number in the cohort has decreased by 14% compared with the year ending March 2014. Over the same period, the number of reoffenders has decreased by 15% and the number of reoffences by 10%.
- Young people who reoffended committed a total of 45,300 reoffences with an average of 3.3 offences each.
- The reoffending rate for those released from custody is 68.7%. It increased by 1.5 percentage points between the years ending March 2014 and March 2015 but decreased by 6.8 percentage points compared with 2004.

⁹⁹ The cohort comprises of both first time offenders and known offenders. Not all offenders are represented because a proportion of cases are lost in the matching process because they cannot be matched.

- The reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds is higher than that for 15-17 year olds (39.0% and 37.5%, respectively).

Figure 9.1: Reoffending rate and number of young people in cohort, years ending December 2004 to March 2015

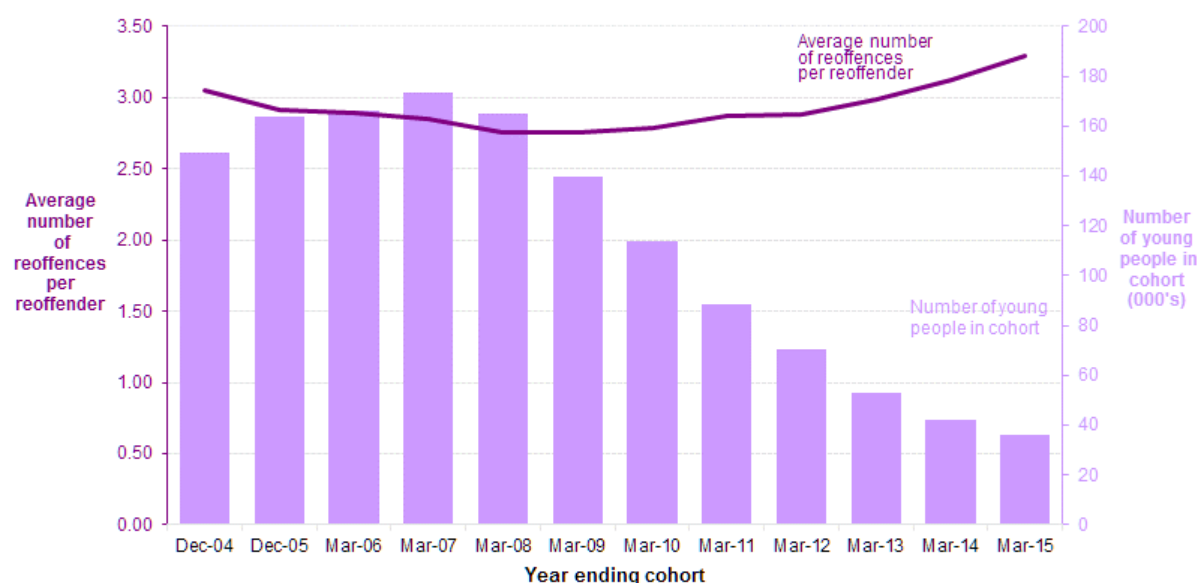


9.1 Reoffending Rate

The reoffending rate for young people in the cohort in the year ending March 2015 remained broadly flat compared to the previous year, decreasing by 0.1 percentage point to 37.9% compared with the year ending March 2014. The reoffending rate for young people increased by 4.3 percentage points compared with the year ending December 2004.

Young people who reoffended committed an average of 3.30 reoffences each. This represents an increase from 3.12 in the year ending March 2014 and an increase from 3.06 in 2004.

Figure 9.2: Average number of reoffences per reoffender and number of young people in the cohort, years ending December 2004 to March 2015



9.2 Changes to the reoffending cohort over time

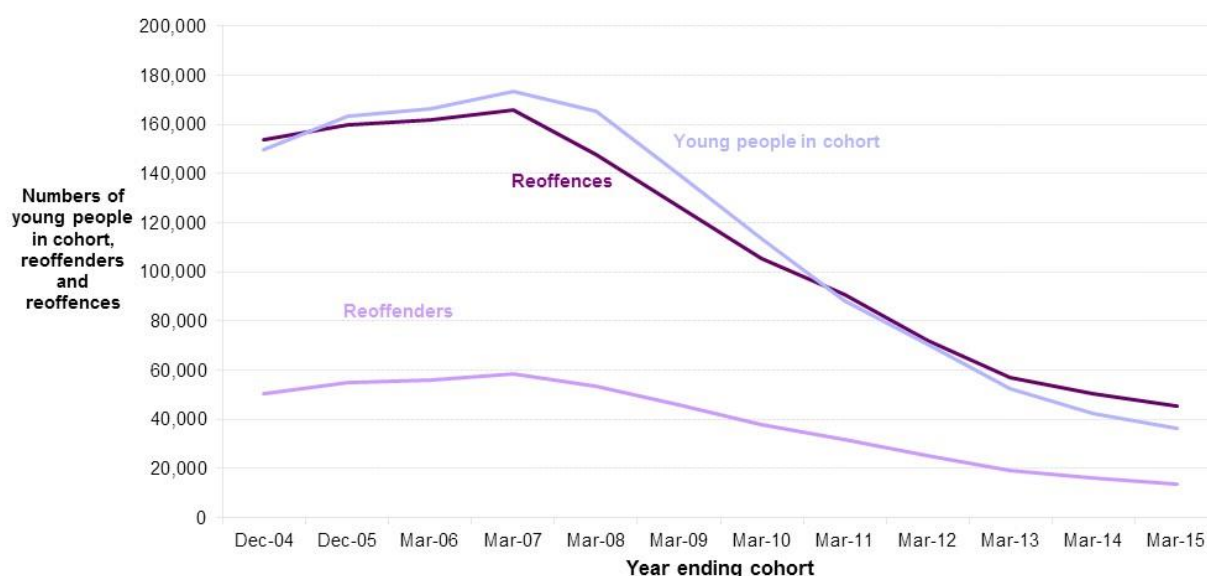
There have been decreases in the number of offenders in the cohort, the number of reoffenders and the number of reoffences that they committed in each year since the year ending March 2007.

The long term trend in the reoffending rate can in part be explained by the size and composition of the cohort, which has changed considerably over the years.

In the year ending December 2004, 149,500 young people formed the cohort; in the year ending March 2015 the size of the cohort had fallen by 76% to 36,300. The corresponding number of reoffenders has decreased from 50,200 to 13,700, a fall of 73%. As the size of the cohort has been falling by a slightly greater proportion over the period than the number of reoffenders, the reoffending rate has increased.

Similarly, over the same period, the number of reoffences has decreased from 153,600 to 45,300, a fall of 71%.

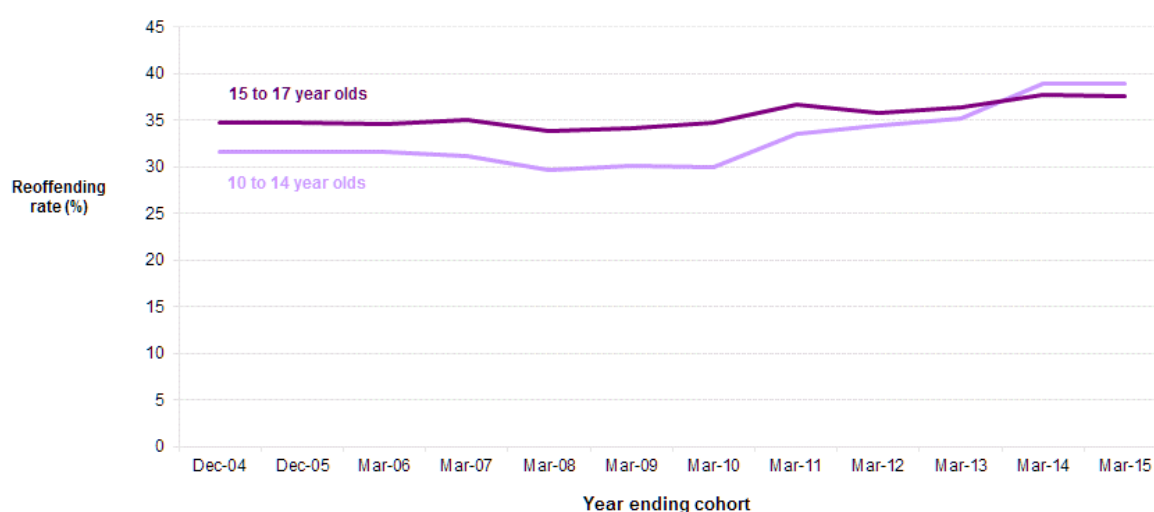
Figure 9.3: Number of young people in the cohort, reoffenders and reoffences, years ending December 2004 to March 2015



9.3 Reoffending by demographic characteristics

Historically, the reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds has been lower than that for 15-17 year olds. However, since the year ending March 2014, the rate for 10-14 year olds has been higher and is now 39.0% compared with 37.5% for 15-17 year olds. In general the reoffending rate for 10-14 year olds has been increasing faster than that for 15-17 year olds, since the year ending March 2010. Compared with the year ending December 2004 the rate increased by 7.3 percentage points for 10-14 year olds and by 2.8 percentage points for 15-17 year olds.

Figure 9.4: Reoffending rate by age group, years ending December 2004 to March 2015



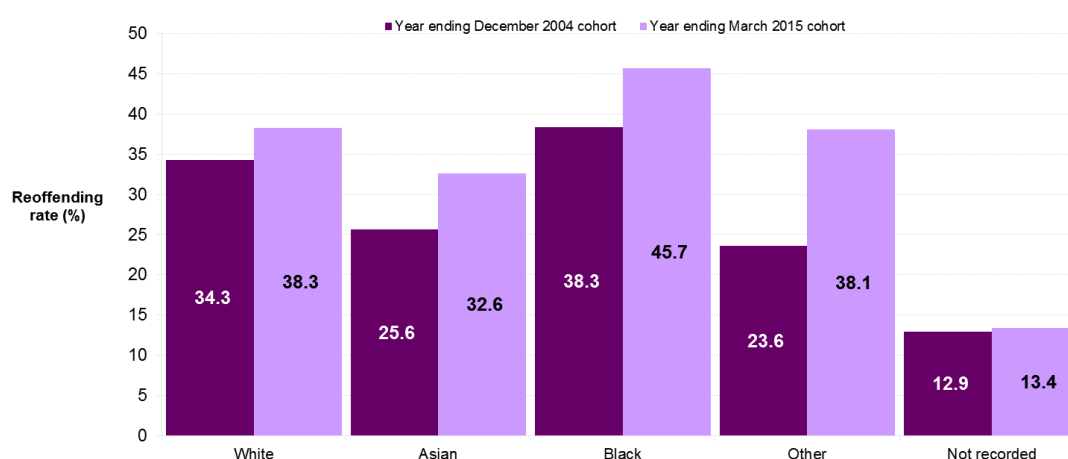
The majority of young people in the cohort were aged 15-17 with the proportion aged 10-14 reducing (from 36% in the year ending December 2004 to 24% in the year ending March 2015). The number of 10-14 year olds in the cohort has decreased by 84% and 15-17 year olds by 71% compared with the year ending December 2004.

Young males, who make up 81% of the cohort, were much more likely to reoffend than young females; the reoffending rate for young males in the cohort in the year ending March 2015 was 40.3% compared with 27.6% for young females. Compared with the year ending March 2014, the reoffending rate decreased by 0.1 percentage point for young males and by 0.7 percentage point for young females.

The reoffending rate increased across ethnicity groups¹⁰⁰ compared with the year ending December 2004. The reoffending rate for White young people increased by 4.1 percentage points, by 7.3 percentage points for Black young people, by 7.0 percentage points for Asian young people, and by 14.5 percentage points for young people of Other ethnicity.

White young people accounted for the majority of the offending cohort (79%, compared with 12% for Black young people and 5% for Asian young people). However, Black young people had the highest reoffending rate of 45.7%, followed by 38.3% for White young people.

Figure 9.5: Reoffending rate by ethnicity, year ending December 2004 compared with year ending March 2015



¹⁰⁰ The ethnicity of a young person is as defined by the Police on the Police National Computer and is based on appearance. It does not correspond with the self-reported ethnicity provided by young people and recorded by YOTs on YJAF. The categories on PNC are limited and restricted to White, Black, Asian, Other or not recorded.

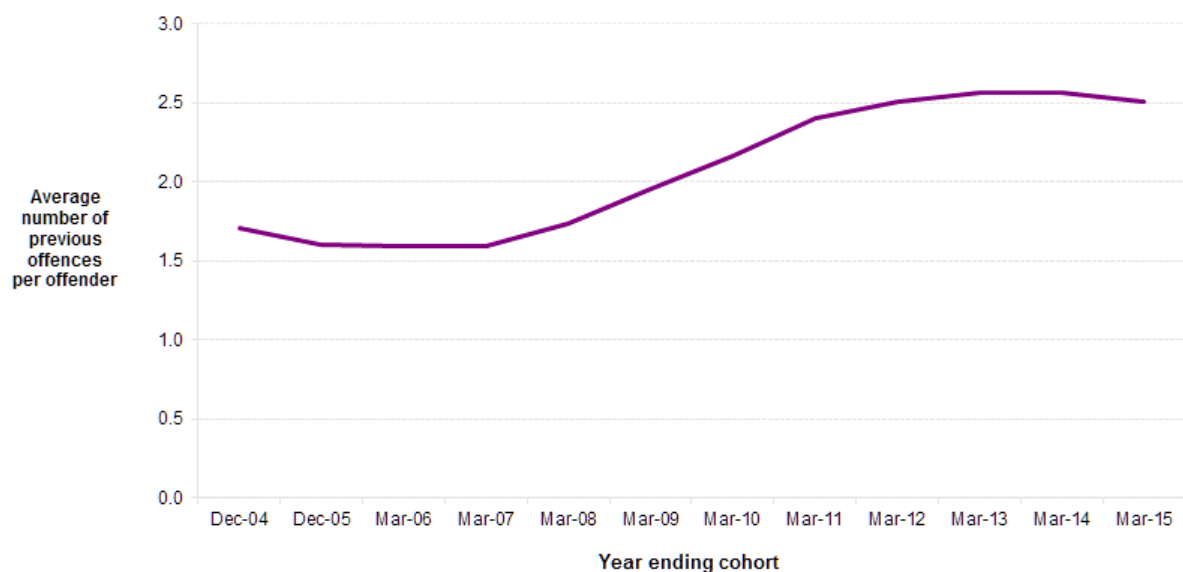
9.4 Reoffending by criminal history

The rate of reoffending increases with the number of previous offences. Those with no previous offences had a reoffending rate of 24.6%, compared 74.5% for those with 11 or more previous offences. The only group to see a decrease in the reoffending rate compared with the year ending March 2014 was for those who committed 7 – 10 previous offences.

Over a quarter (26%) of the total reoffences were committed by young people with no previous offences, these made up over half (52%) of the young people in the cohort, while those with 11 or more previous offences made up only 6% of the young people in the cohort, but committed nearly a fifth (18%) of all reoffences committed by young people.

The average number of previous offences per offender rose from 1.71 in the year ending December 2004 and decreased from 2.57 in the year ending March 2014 compared with 2.51 in the year ending March 2015.

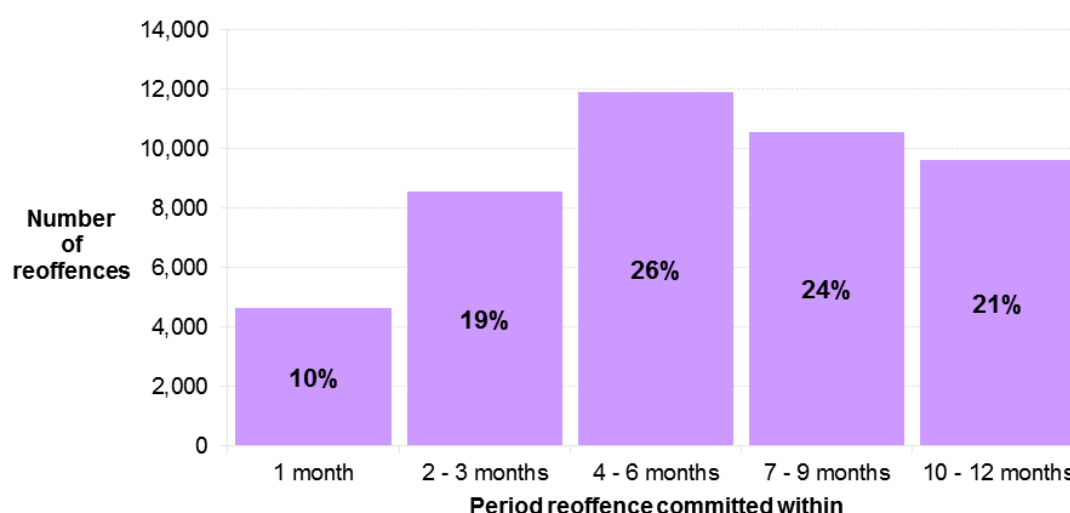
Figure 9.6: Average number of previous offences per offender, years ending December 2004 to March 2015



9.5 Time to reoffence

In the year ending March 2015, 10% of the total reoffences occurred within the first month, and 55% occurred within the first 6 months.

Figure 9.7: Reoffences by time to reoffence, year ending March 2015



9.6 Reoffending by index offence

The offence that leads to a young person being included in the offender cohort is called the index offence.

Young people with an index offence of robbery and of theft had the highest reoffending rates (44.2% and 43.2%, respectively). Those whose index offence was a sexual offence had the lowest reoffending rate, at 14.4%.

Comparing the year ending March 2015 with the year ending March 2014, the reoffending rate fell for the following index offences: possession of weapons (by 3.6 percentage points), criminal damage and arson (by 3.5 percentage points), miscellaneous crimes against society (by 3.0 percentage points), violence against the person (by 1.6 percentage points), and drugs (by 0.6 percentage point).

Over the same period, the reoffending rate rose for the following index offences: fraud (by 5.2 percentage points), robbery (by 3.7 percentage points), public order (by 3.6 percentage points), summary motoring (by 2.5 percentage points), sexual offences (by 2.2 percentage points), and theft (by 1.1 percentage points).

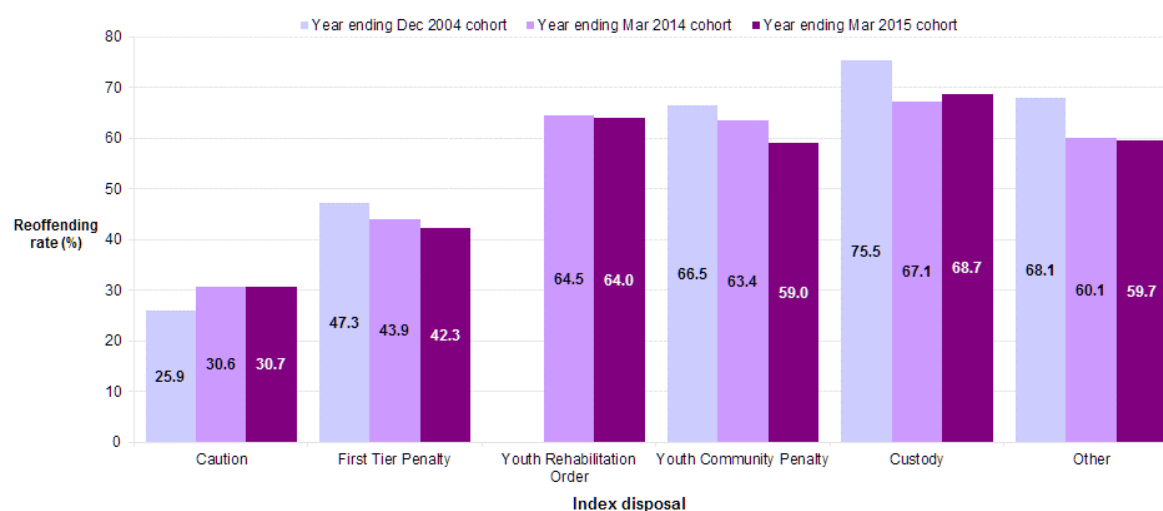
9.7 Reoffending by index disposal

The index disposal is the type of sentence the young person received for their index offence. Those young people who received a caution for their index disposal had a reoffending rate of 30.7%; those that received a first-tier disposal (such as a referral order or a discharge) had a reoffending rate of 42.3%, and those given a Youth Rehabilitation Order had a reoffending rate of 64.0%. Those released from custody had a reoffending rate of 68.7%; this is a 1.5 percentage point increase compared

with the year ending March 2014. Young people released from custody make up 2% of the cohort.

Proven reoffending rates by index disposal (sentence type) should not be compared to assess the effectiveness of different sentences, as there is no control for known differences in offender characteristics and the type of sentence given¹⁰¹.

Figure 9.8: Reoffending rate by index disposal^(a), years ending December 2004, March 2014 and March 2015



^(a) Youth Rehabilitation Orders came into force on 30 November 2009.

¹⁰¹ See Guide to proven reoffending document for further details:
www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/564634/guide-to-proven-reoffending-statistics-jan17.pdf

Chapter 10: Criminal histories of young people

This chapter presents information on the criminal histories of young people in the Youth Justice System (YJS). A young person is counted as having a criminal history if their Police National Computer (PNC) record shows that, at the time of receiving a caution or conviction, they had previously committed one or more proven offences.

A young person's criminal history counts the number of occasions on which they previously received a caution or conviction for any offence and has been recorded on the PNC, including some offences committed outside of England and Wales. This count differs from First Time Entrants (FTEs) because all offenders prosecuted by an English or Welsh police force, irrespective of country of residence, are included.

This chapter covers information up to the year ending March 2016. For the latest Ministry of Justice publication please see www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

Key findings

- In the year ending March 2016, young people cautioned or convicted for any offence (as recorded on the PNC) had on average 2.2 previous cautions or convictions.
- The proportion of young people sentenced for indictable offences that had a criminal history has been reducing. In the year ending March 2016, 74% of these young people had criminal history, compared with 77% in the previous year and 88% in the year ending March 2006.
- The proportion of young people sentenced to custody who had no prior criminal history was 12% in the year ending March 2016. This is the highest the proportion has been since the year ending March 2006.

10.1 Criminal history of young people in the Youth Justice System

In the year ending March 2016, young people cautioned or convicted for any offence had on average 2.2 previous cautions or convictions. This has decreased slightly from 2.3 previous cautions or convictions in the year ending March 2015 and increased from an average of 1.7 previous cautions or convictions in the year ending March 2006.

For young people cautioned or convicted for indictable offences with a criminal history of 15 or more previous cautions or convictions, the majority were sentenced to either immediate custody (43%) or to a community sentence (26%). For those with no previous cautions or convictions, the proportions for these sentence types were 2% and 31% respectively.

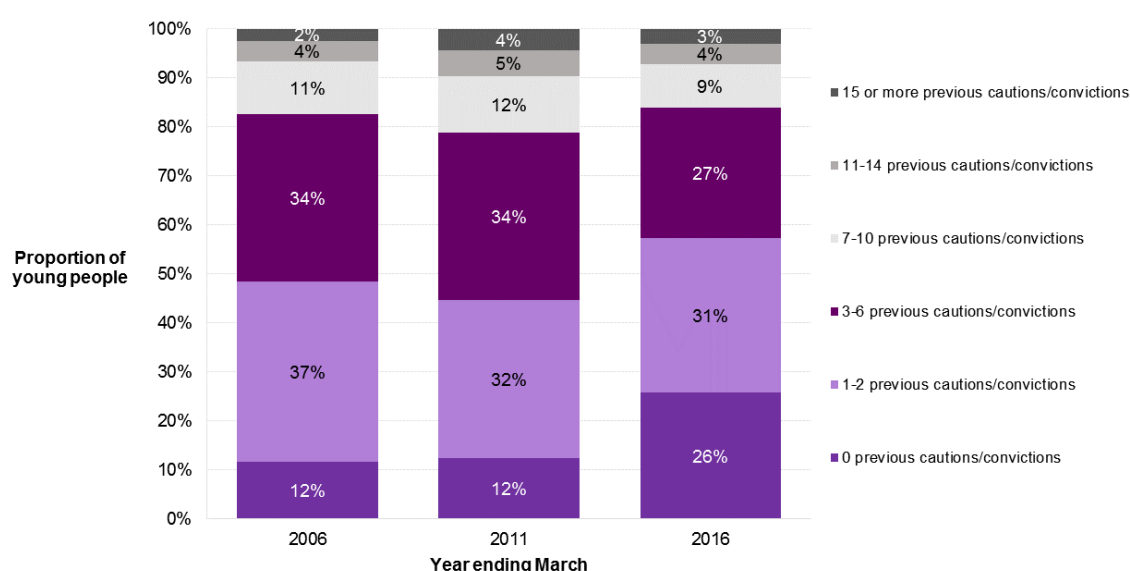
The PNC data excludes a range of summary offences so the remainder of the chapter focuses on the criminal histories of young people cautioned or convicted for

indictable offences only (offences that either must or can be tried at the Crown Court). A range of less serious summary offences, such as TV licence evasion and many motoring offences are not recorded on the PNC. Therefore these figures are an undercount of the true number of cautions and convictions given for these types of offences.

10.2 Criminal histories of young people sentenced for indictable offences

Of the 15,900 young people sentenced for indictable offences in the year ending March 2016, 74% had a criminal history, a fall from 77% in the year ending March 2015. This proportion has also reduced compared with the year ending March 2006, when it was 88%.

Figure 10.1 Proportion of young people sentenced for indictable offences by criminal history, years ending March 2006, 2011 and 2016¹⁰²



The proportion of young people sentenced to custody who had no prior criminal history was 12% in the year ending March 2016. This is the highest it has been over the last 10 years and is up from 9% in the year ending March 2015 and 5% in the year ending March 2006. Over the same period the volume of young people sentenced to custody who had no prior criminal history has decreased by 39% from 370 to 230.

10.3 Criminal histories of young people cautioned for indictable offences

Of the 10,000 young people cautioned for indictable offences in the year ending March 2016, 73% had no previous cautions or convictions. A further 23% had 1 – 2 previous cautions or convictions and 5% had three or more previous cautions or convictions¹⁰³.

¹⁰² Percentages do not sum due to rounding.

¹⁰³ Figures do not add to 100% due to rounding

Chapter 11: Comparisons with the adult system

This chapter provides a comparison between young people (10-17 years), young adults (where available, which covers 18-20 years) and adults (21 years and over) in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) in England and Wales. This chapter includes comparisons of First Time Entrants (FTEs), offences and disposals, knife possession, sentencing, population in custody and reoffending.

Key findings

- Young people accounted for 13% of FTEs to the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2016. Young adults accounted for 14% and adults accounted for 73%.
- Young people (10-17) sentenced for indictable offences accounted for 6% of the total people sentenced in the year ending March 2016 with 17,700 court sentences, compared to 9% for young adults and 85% for adults.
- Young people in custody accounted for 1% of the total custodial population in June 2016.
- In the year ending March 2015 the proportion of people who reoffended was highest for young people, with a reoffending rate of 37.9%. Young adults had a reoffending rate of 28.6%, while adults had a rate of 23.7%.
- Young people accounted for 21% (3,300) of the total number of offences involving the possession of a knife or offensive weapon resulting in a caution or conviction in the year ending March 2016. This is 10 percentage points higher than the proportion of young people in the general population that are of offending age¹⁰⁴.
- The number of young people cautioned or convicted for possession of a knife or offensive weapon increased by 18%, compared with a 5% increase for adults from the year ending March 2015 to the year ending March 2016.

11.1 First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales

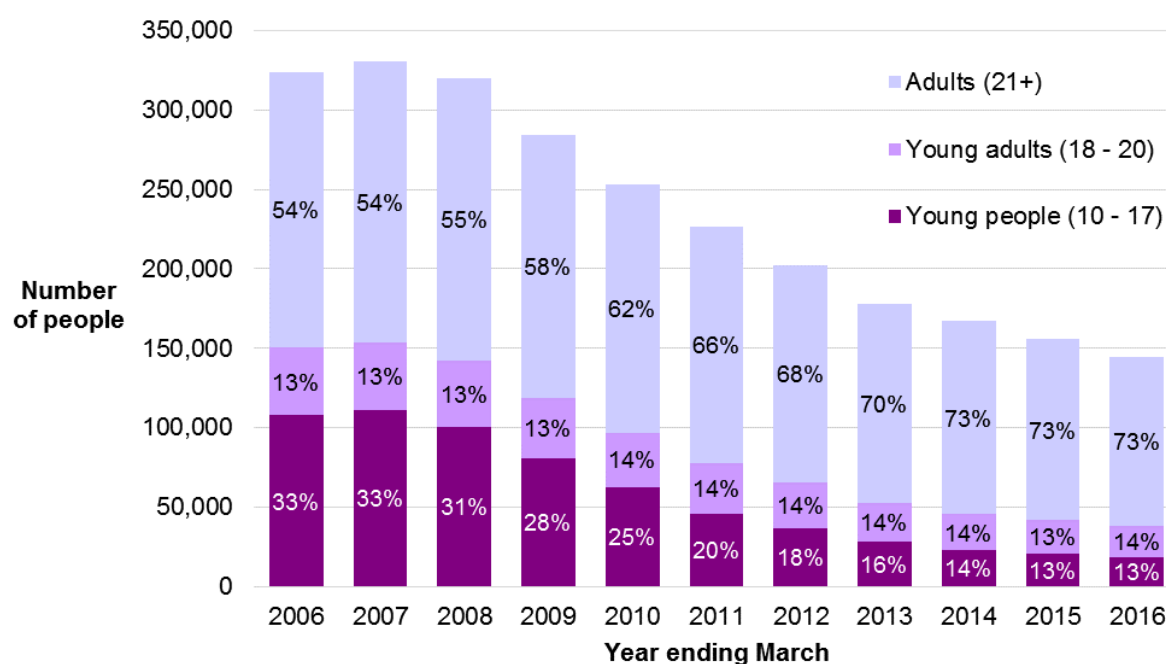
Young people accounted for 13% (18,300) of FTEs to the criminal justice system in the year ending March 2016. Young adults accounted for 14% (20,100) and adults accounted for 73% (125,900).

In the year ending March 2006, young people accounted for 33% of FTEs to the criminal justice system. This proportion was broadly stable until the year ending March 2009 when it started to fall year on year to its present level of 13%.

¹⁰⁴ Young people aged 10-17 make up 10% of the general population aged over 10 years of England and Wales.

The number of FTEs is falling at a faster rate for young people than for adults (18 years and over). In the year ending March 2016, the number of young people who were FTEs fell by 83% compared to the year ending March 2006. This compares with 42% for adults over the same time period.

Figure 11.1: Numbers of First Time Entrants to the criminal justice system in England and Wales, by age group, years ending March 2006 to March 2016¹⁰⁵



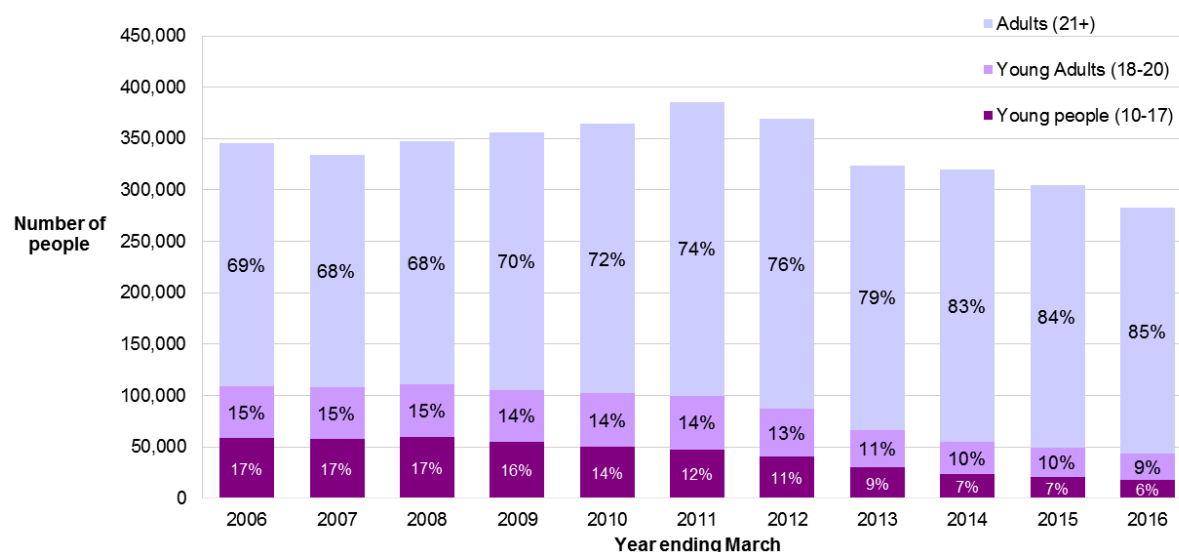
11.2 Offences, disposals and knife possession sentencing in the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales

Young people sentenced for all offences accounted for 2% of the total people sentenced in the year ending March 2016. This compares to young adults (18-20) who accounted for 6%, with adults accounting for 92% of the total people sentenced.

Young people sentenced for indictable offences accounted for 6% of the total people sentenced in the year ending March 2016 with 17,700 court sentences, compared with 9% for young adults and 85% for adults.

¹⁰⁵ Percentages do not sum due to rounding.

Figure 11.2: People sentenced for indictable offences by age group, years ending March 2006 to March 2016¹⁰⁶



Young people accounted for 23% (150 offences) of the total number of offences involving threatening with a knife or offensive weapon in the year ending March 2016.

Young people accounted for 21% (3,300 offenders) of the total number of offenders cautioned or convicted for possession of a knife or offensive weapon offences in the year ending March 2016.

The number of young people cautioned or convicted for possession of a knife or offensive weapon increased by 18%, compared to a 5% increase for adults (18 and over) from the year ending March 2015 to the year ending March 2016.

The proportion of young people sentenced to immediate custody for possession of a knife or offensive weapon was 9% compared to 32% of adults (18 and over).

11.3 Population in custody

Young people (10-17) in custody accounted for 1% of the total prison population in June 2016. This proportion has remained stable compared to June 2015.

The under-18 custody population was 900¹⁰⁷ at the end of June 2016, compared with 4,600 young adults and 79,900 adults in prison.

¹⁰⁶ Percentages do not sum due to rounding

¹⁰⁷ Sourced from Offender Management Quarterly Statistics

In the last year, the total population in custody decreased by 1%. There was a 1% decrease in the adult (21 and over) custody population, a 10% decrease in the young adult (18-20) custody population and a 12% decrease in the under-18 custody population.

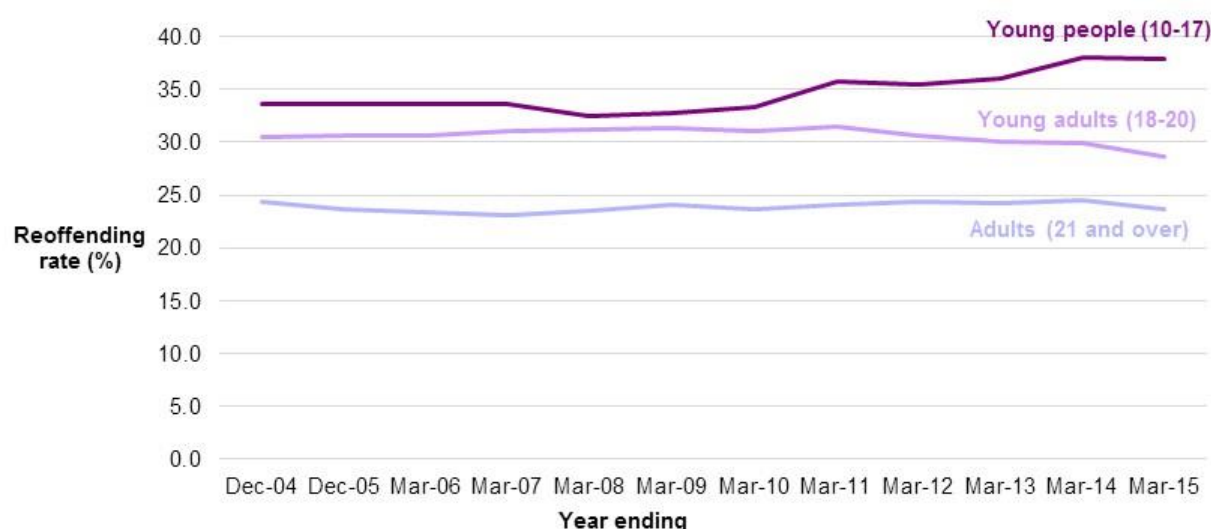
11.4 Reoffending in England and Wales

In the year ending March 2015 the proportion of people who reoffended was highest for young people aged 10-17, with a reoffending rate of 37.9%. Young adults (18-20) had a reoffending rate of 28.6%, while adults (21 and over) had a rate of 23.7%.

Compared with the year ending March 2014, the reoffending rate for young people remained stable (decreasing by 0.1 percentage point), the reoffending rate for young adults decreased by 1.2 percentage points and the reoffending rate for adults (21 and over) has decreased by 0.8 percentage point.

The average number of reoffences per reoffender was highest for young people with an average of 3.30 reoffences per reoffender. The figures were 2.91 for young adults and 3.27 for adults. Rates for all three groups have increased compared with the year ending March 2014.

Figure 11.3: Proportion of people who reoffend by age group, years ending December 2004 to March 2015



Links to other resources

Anti-Social Behaviour statistics

www.gov.uk/government/collections/antisocial-behaviour

The latest annual bulletin (published in September 2014) presents the number of anti-social behaviour orders issued in the period 1 April 1999 to 31 December 2013 and breached in the period 1 June 2000 to 31 December 2013.

Arrest statistics

www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales

Data on arrests for notifiable offences are included within this annual Home Office statistical release.

Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic disproportionality in the Criminal Justice System in England and Wales

www.gov.uk/government/publications/black-asian-and-minority-ethnic-disproportionality-in-the-criminal-justice-system-in-england-and-wales

This report examines ethnic group representation in the Criminal Justice System from charging through proven reoffending

Crime Survey for England and Wales

www.crimesurvey.co.uk/

This bulletin presents key statistics on crime in England and Wales taken from statistics from two different sources: the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW, previously known as the British Crime Survey), and police recorded crime. The publication also includes statistics on the victimisation and experiences of crime from young people aged 10-15.

Criminal Court Statistics

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-court-statistics

This quarterly bulletin presents National Statistics on activities in magistrates' courts and Crown Courts in England and Wales. The figures give a summary overview of the volume of cases dealt with by these courts over time, with statistics also broken down for the main types of case involved.

Also published are detailed breakdowns of the headline court caseload and timeliness statistics, broken down by court or Local Justice Area.

Criminal Justice Statistics

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

This quarterly bulletin presents key statistics on activity in the Criminal Justice System (CJS) for England and Wales. The data provides users with information about proven offending and its outcomes in England and Wales. It contains statistics for adults and young people on; offences, out of court disposals, court disposals and offending histories (including First Time Entrants and previous disposals).

Knife Possession Sentencing

www.gov.uk/government/collections/knife-possession-sentencing-quarterly

This quarterly report contains key statistics describing trends in cautioning and sentencing, probation supervision and the prison population for offences involving the possession of a knife or offensive weapon in England and Wales.

Race and the Criminal Justice System

www.gov.uk/government/collections/race-and-the-criminal-justice-system

This biennial publication compiles statistics from data sources across the CJS, to provide a combined perspective on the typical experiences of different ethnic groups in England and Wales. It reports statistical information on the representation of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic groups as suspects, offenders and victims within the CJS and on employees within criminal justice agencies.

Reoffending of young people

www.gov.uk/government/collections/proven-reoffending-statistics

This report provides key statistics on proven reoffending in England and Wales. It gives proven reoffending figures for offenders who were released from custody, received a non-custodial conviction at court or received a caution between April 2014 and March 2015.

Understanding and Improving Reoffending Performance

yjresourcehub.uk/yjb-effective-practice/youth-justice-kits/item/362-understanding-and-improving-reoffending-performance.html

This report is a summary of learning from the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) four year Reducing Reoffending Programme with implications for practice. It includes how the work has developed, how the cohort is changing and a range of insights and examples on reducing reoffending at a local level and a consideration of the impact of the work and ways it needs to be taken forwards in the future.

Women and the Criminal Justice System

www.gov.uk/government/collections/women-and-the-criminal-justice-system

This publication compiles statistics from data sources across the Criminal Justice System (CJS), to provide a combined perspective on the typical experiences of women who come into contact with it. It considers how these experiences have changed over time and how they contrast to the typical experiences of men.

Young people in custody in the secure estate

www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-custody-data

This monthly report covers information on the population in custody within the youth secure estate. The data provides users with the breakdown of the population in custody each month as well as trend data from year ending March 2006 onwards (at a detailed level).

Explanatory notes

Data sources and quality

Most of the figures in this report have been drawn from administrative IT systems, which, as with any large scale recording system, are subject to possible errors with data entry and processing and may be subject to change over time. Steps are taken to improve the completeness and accuracy of this information each year.

Other figures have been taken from official published statistics, which may be National Statistics. Further details on the sources of information are given in [Annex E](#).

'National Statistics' is the national standard for official statistics. The 'National Statistics' Quality Mark indicates that the statistics have been produced in accordance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#). The Code of Practice requires the statistics to be produced, managed and disseminated to high professional standards. The statistics must be well explained and meet users' needs. The 'National Statistics' standard has statutory backing.

Data from the Ministry of Justice

Some of the data in this report have been taken from previously published statistical bulletins published by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and other government departments. In these cases links to original publication are provided. Please see these publications for comments on the quality of these data.

For more information about the databases used and definitions used in the Criminal Justice System please see:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

Changes to methodology in the Criminal Court Statistics Quarterly used in Annex D

All timeliness figures in this publication are based on new timeliness methodology which include cases with an offence to completion duration of over 10 years.

Following a consultation in early 2015, a proposal was agreed to make changes to the end-to-end case timeliness methodology applied within the Criminal Court Statistics Quarterly publication. The proposed change was to remove the 10 year threshold from the validation scripts applied to published estimates. In June 2016 the MoJ confirmed their intention to implement the changes and released the first set of tables as experimental statistics in the September 2016 bulletin.

For the full explanation of the new methodology for end-to-end timeliness in criminal courts, please see:

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/556447/annex-b.pdf

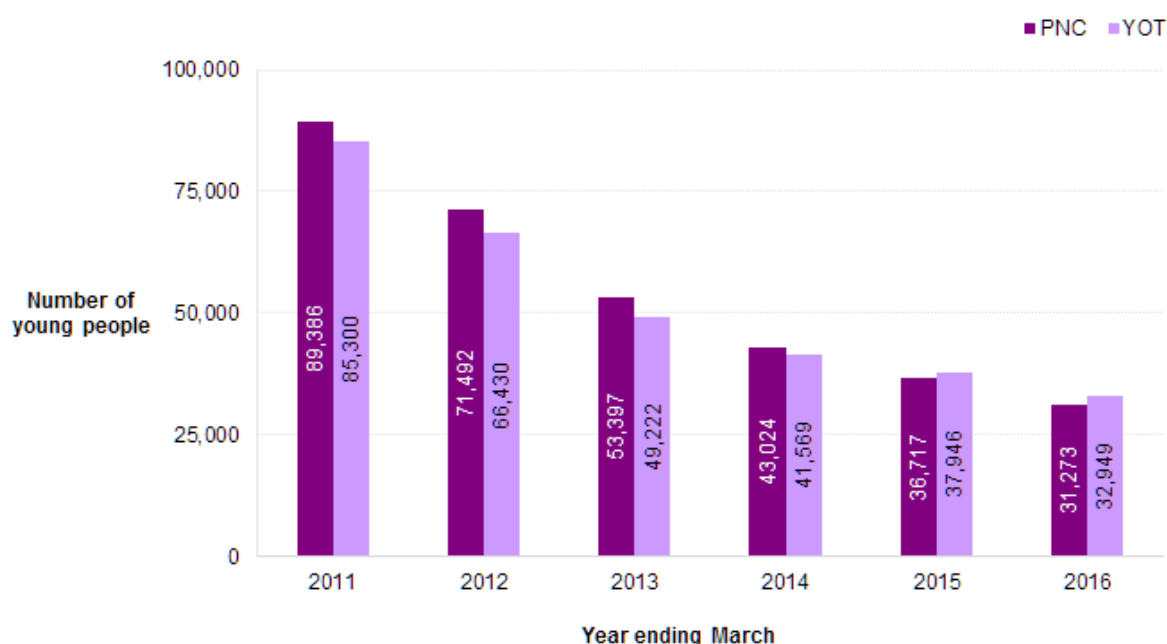
Data from the Youth Justice Board (YJB)

Some of the data in this publication come from Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) and do not come from the police or courts. As such, the data given in this publication may differ from that presented in other Ministry of Justice publications. The data for the year ending March 2016 have been taken from the YJB's Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF) and eAsset. YJAF holds case level data supplied by each of the 153 YOTs in England and Wales. This system contains summary and case level data on young people cautioned or convicted for an offence. YJAF replaced the Youth Justice Management Information System. Prior to April 2009, only summary level data was submitted to the YJB.

Comparison with Police National Computer (PNC)

Historically there has been a difference in the figures of young people convicted taken from the PNC and YJAF/YJMIS, with the PNC figure being higher than that on YJAF/YJMIS. The difference between the figures has been reducing year on year. In the year ending March 2016, for the second consecutive year, the number of young people receiving a caution or court disposal as recorded by YOTs was higher than that recorded on the PNC.

Figure EN1: Trends in the number of young people cautioned or convicted of an offence: comparing data from YOTs and the PNC, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



In the year ending March 2016 a large number (2,900) of Youth Rehabilitation Orders (YROs) recorded in YJAF did not have any requirement data attached to them. This represents 33% of all YROs. All YROs given should have requirements attached. An investigation into this issue indicated that most of the missing requirements have been recorded on the YOTs' case management systems but that

there is a technical problem with one of these systems that means that the requirements data are not feeding through to the YJAF.

In the year ending March 2016 there were 153 YOTs in England and Wales. The YJB received complete data returns from all but three YOTs in that year. These YOTs were unable to send data due to technical problems with their case management systems. They were however able to send their figures in summary level form for inclusion.

Considerable effort has gone into improving the quality of the case level data received from YOTs over the last few years. Revised data recording guidance and updates to the technology have led to more complete and accurate datasets. This work continued during the year ending March 2016.

The data on young people in the secure estate during the year ending March 2016 comes from the YJB's **eAsset** database and data on young people in the secure estate prior to April 2012 comes from the YJB's Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS) database. The quality of the information recorded on these databases is generally assumed to be relatively high as they are the operational systems used to place young people in custody. A number of key fields are used for which completion is mandatory when booking a young person into custody. However, both sources are subject to possible errors when entering data as well as changes over time due to being operational databases that are regularly updated. Different checks on the data help improve and maintain the quality.

Ongoing improvements to data entry validation reduce the risk of incorrect recording. Identification of duplicate records improves the reliability of the stored information. Visual checks on single variables as well as different variable groupings are carried out to ensure only permitted combinations result. Data trends are also examined to assist with quality assuring the data. Different data sources are used to ensure the figures are sensible and sound.

Change to methodology used to calculated time spent in the youth secure estate

In previous publications, the time spent in the youth secure estate was calculated as the time in days for a custodial episode when the young person was 17 or under at the end of their custodial episode.

This excluded custodial episodes for young people who turned 18 before they left custody. In this publication, we have included these young people's custodial episodes up until the young person's 18th birthday. A young person may remain in the youth secure estate for a short time following their 18th birthday until they are released or transition to the young adult or adult estate.

As young people serving longer term sentences are more likely to reach their 18th birthday in custody, due to the length of their sentence, this new approach results in averages that are higher than previously published.

The **behaviour management** data are taken from monthly data returns from establishments to the YJB. In some cases the total figures for age, gender and ethnicity may not add up to the same figures due to recording issues. These small variations are negligible and will not make any difference to the overall rates. To improve the quality, the data was subject to a validation exercise with establishments prior to publication.

Data received from the establishments through monthly returns is validated through a reconciliation process on an annual basis. Subsequently these have been checked and revised. Therefore, figures in this publication will not match those previously published in the year ending March 2015 publication. This year there was an additional historic reconciliation and as a result data from year ending March 2011 may have changed significantly and not match those previously published.

The **Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint** (MMPR) system is being rolled out amongst STCs and YOIs in England and Wales. For the period April 2015 to March 2016, six establishments have been using the technique and information has been collected from them on a monthly basis.

Data from the Office of National Statistics

The Crime Survey for England and Wales is a nationally representative survey of individuals aged 16 years and over living in private households in England and Wales. In 2009, the Crime Survey for England and Wales was extended to young people aged 10-15 (those aged 16 and 17 are included in the main survey). The primary objective of extending the survey was to provide estimates of the levels of crime experienced by young people and their risk of victimisation. The main Crime Survey for England and Wales publication can be found at:

www.crimesurvey.co.uk/

Details on the methodology can be found at:

www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/guide-to-finding-crime-statistics/crime-survey-for-england-and-wales--csew-/index.html

Data from the Home Office

Data on arrests are taken from the Home Office statistical release 'Police Powers and Procedures England and Wales year ending 31 March 2016'.

The figures presented in 'Police Powers and Procedures year ending 31 March 2016' were correct at the time of publication, and may include revisions submitted by forces for the years covered by, and received since the publication of the previous year's edition.

Figures for the year ending March 2006 are estimated due to unavailable data from some police forces. As a result, figures are presented rounded to the nearest hundred.

Press enquiries about the arrests data should be made to the Home Office's press office on 020 7035 3535.

All other enquiries about the arrests data should be made directly to Home Office Statistics via: crimeandpolicestats@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Suppression

Suppression has been used within this publication to avoid the disclosure of a young person or self-identification.

Where appropriate, figures have been suppressed and replaced with an asterisk (*) to minimise the risk of disclosure. To make sure that the suppressed number cannot be derived by subtraction, additional suppression of figures may be necessary. Where additional suppression has been applied it is noted throughout.

Some data within this publication have not been suppressed. This applies to data which is already in the public domain, through other publications, without suppression having been applied.

Implementation of changes to offence classifications

In July 2013, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) re-designed the classifications used to present police recorded crime statistics, following recommendations from the National Statistician's review of Crime Statistics in England and Wales in June 2011. The changes to classifications were implemented in the ONS statistical bulletin *Crime in England and Wales, year ending March 2013*, published in July 2013, alongside a methodological note¹⁰⁸ providing more detail on the changes and their impact on time-series for key measures.

No change has been made to the coverage of offences in the police recorded crime series, and most changes are presentational, with some offences moving between classifications or being separated out of existing groupings.

In this publication information is presented on the new offence group breakdowns where possible. Therefore, please note that offence groups and classification may vary between chapters and data sources.

Ethnicity classifications

Two measures of recording ethnicity are utilised throughout this publication: officer identified ethnicity and self-identified ethnicity.

Officer identified ethnicity is as recorded by a police officer or a member of the administrative or clerical team and is based on visual appearance. It is based on a 4+1 classification as follows: White, Black, Asian, Other and 'Unknown' or 'not

¹⁰⁸ www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/crime-statistics-methodology/presentational-changes-on-police-recorded-crime-in-england-and-wales.pdf

recorded'. This is the ethnicity information presented for information from the PNC (data on cautions, First Time Entrants, reoffending and criminal histories).

"Self-identified ethnicity" is the ethnicity defined by the individual, and categories are based on the ONS classifications from 2001¹⁰⁹. Self-identified ethnicity is based on a 5+1 classification as follows: White, Black, Asian, Mixed, Other and 'Unknown' or 'not recorded'. This is the ethnicity presented for information from the Home Office (data on arrests), from the YJB (characteristics of young people according to YJAF, outcomes following remand, young people in custody in the secure estate and behaviour management).

Within Chapter 6 (custodial remand population) and Chapter 7, the Other ethnicity has been grouped within Asian to minimise the risk of disclosure.

Changes to cautions for young people

From 8 April 2013, youth cautions and youth conditional cautions were made available to all 10-17 year olds (originally, from 26 January 2010 youth conditional cautions were only available for 16 and 17 year olds in five pilot areas). Youth cautions (which include youth conditional cautions) are the only out of court disposals currently available for young people. Previously, penalty notices for disorder were another out of court disposal available for young people however from 8 April 2013 they are no longer available for persons under 18.

Under the old system, a young person could receive a Reprimand for a first offence and if they commit a further offence, a final warning. Once a young person had received a final warning, any further offences, regardless of severity would result in a charge and if found guilty a court disposal. Under the new system, a young person can be given a youth caution even if they have previously had a court disposal. This allows for more appropriate disposals to be given based on the nature of the offence.

Historical comparisons between youth cautions and Reprimands & Warnings should therefore be treated with caution.

Symbols and conventions

The units of measurement in this publication are offenders, offences and disposals; these are given as full numbers where available. The percentages are rounded to the nearest number or one decimal place. The following symbols have been used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

0 = Nil

.. = Not available or not applicable (This is stated in the individual tables)

- = Negligible, less than half the final digit shown

* = Value suppressed to maintain confidentiality

¹⁰⁹ The ONS introduced two further categories to the Census in 2011: 'White – Gypsy or Irish Traveller' and 'Arab'; and moved 'Chinese' to the broader Asian category. To allow for comparability within the time series presented in this publication, Chinese are placed in the 'Other', following the 2001 Census.

- (p) Provisional data
- (r) Revised data
- (e) Estimated data

Revisions policy

Data are received from YOTs and the secure estate on a rolling basis which may lead to slight changes to published figures. Revisions are only made when there is a significant change or when an error was identified in the original data.

For the revisions policy for data taken from other sources, please see their respective publications.

User Consultation

The UK Statistics Authority has assessed the Youth Justice Statistics Annual Report and it has been designated official national statistics.

To this end, we are consulting a wide range of stakeholders through a future YJB Stakeholder's Survey on how well the Youth Justice Statistics fulfils their needs. We would like to hear how you use the report and whether you think there's anything we could improve.

Please answer the following, emailing your responses to the YJB at analysis@yjb.gsi.gov.uk by **30 September 2017**.

1. Do you use the Youth Justice Statistics Annual Report (text and Excel tables)?
2. Which of these statistics do you use, and for what purposes? Please be as specific as possible. For example, if you use the statistics to provide briefings and further analysis to others, it would be helpful to know what the end use is.
3. Have you got any comments on the quality of the information or methods of analysis?
4. What further information would you like to see?
5. Do you have any comments on the presentation of the report?

Contacts

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:
Tel: 020 3334 3536

Email: newsdesk@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

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Youth Justice Board
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General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from:
www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/

For enquires direct to the YJB please email: analysis@yjb.gsi.gov.uk

Spreadsheet files of the tables contained in this document are also available for download with this publication.

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Annex A: Performance outcomes in the Youth Justice System

This annex covers information on the performance outcomes for the Youth Justice System (YJS). During the year ending March 2016, England and Wales had three indicators; two Impact Indicators on First Time Entrants to the YJS and Reoffending for young people, and a Transparency Indicator on the use of custody. There were a further four Welsh Youth Justice indicators around young people's access to suitable accommodation, their engagement in education, training and employment (ETE), their access to substance misuse services and access to mental health services. Due to mid-year changes in the methodology of the access to mental health services indicator, these data are not being presented in this year's publication.

A.1 England and Wales Impact Indicators

First Time Entrants:

First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system are classified as young people aged 10-17 years, resident in England and Wales, who received their first caution or conviction, based on data recorded by the police on the Police National Computer¹¹⁰ (see [Chapter 2](#)).

- There were 18,300 FTEs entering the Youth Justice System in England and Wales in the year ending March 2016.
- The number of FTEs has fallen by 83% from 107,700 in the year ending March 2006 and fallen by 13% from 20,700 in the year ending March 2015.

Reoffending by young people:

A proven reoffence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period that leads to a court conviction or caution either within in the one year follow-up or within a further six month waiting period to allow the offence to be proven in court.

- Results from the year ending March 2015 cohort show that the rate of reoffending for young people was 37.9%. This is remained stable compared with the year ending March 2014 when the reoffending rate was 38.0%.
- The average number of reoffences per reoffender was 3.30 in the year ending March 2015, an increase from 3.12 reoffences per reoffender in the year ending March 2014.

¹¹⁰ For further information on this dataset please visit: www.gov.uk/government/collections/criminal-justice-statistics-quarterly

A.2 England and Wales Transparency Indicator

Use of custody:

The Transparency Indicator on the use of custody is measured as the number of custodial sentences per 1,000 young people (aged 10-17) in the general population. These data are taken from the YJB's Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF).

For information on young people in custody see Chapter 7.

- Data from the Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF) show that there were 0.41 custodial sentences per 1,000 young people in the year ending March 2016, compared with 0.46 in the year ending March 2015 and 1.30 in the year ending March 2006.
- The number of custodial sentences as a proportion of all sentences has been stable for the last decade accounting for between 6% and 7% of all sentences. This is against a background of a reduction in the number of young people coming before the courts, and those receiving custody.

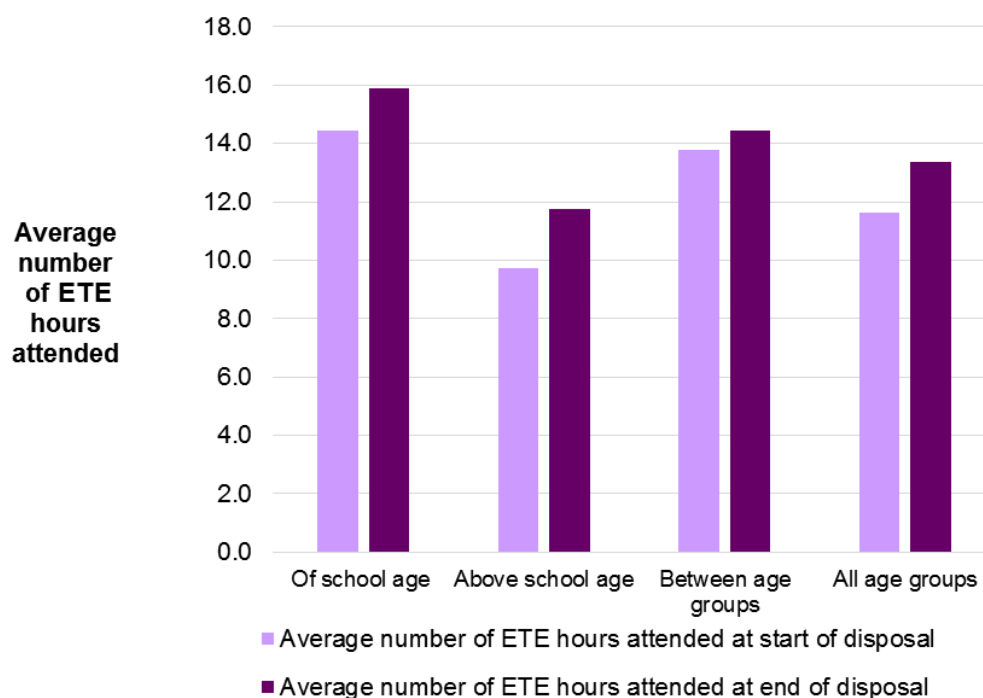
Welsh Youth Justice Indicators

Engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) for young people in the Youth Justice System:

The measure looks at the change in the average number of hours of ETE per week young people in Wales complete at the start and at the end of their disposal.

- In Wales during the year ending March 2016, young people had an average of 11.6 hours of ETE per week at the beginning of their disposals and an average of 13.4 hours at the end of their disposals. This represented a 14.7% increase in the average number of hours they completed.
- In comparison, in the year ending March 2015 young people had an average of 14.2 hours of ETE per week at the beginning of their disposals and an average of 16.1 at the end of their disposals. This represented a 13.5% increase.

Figure A.1: Average number of hours of suitable ETE attended per week, Wales, year ending March 2016

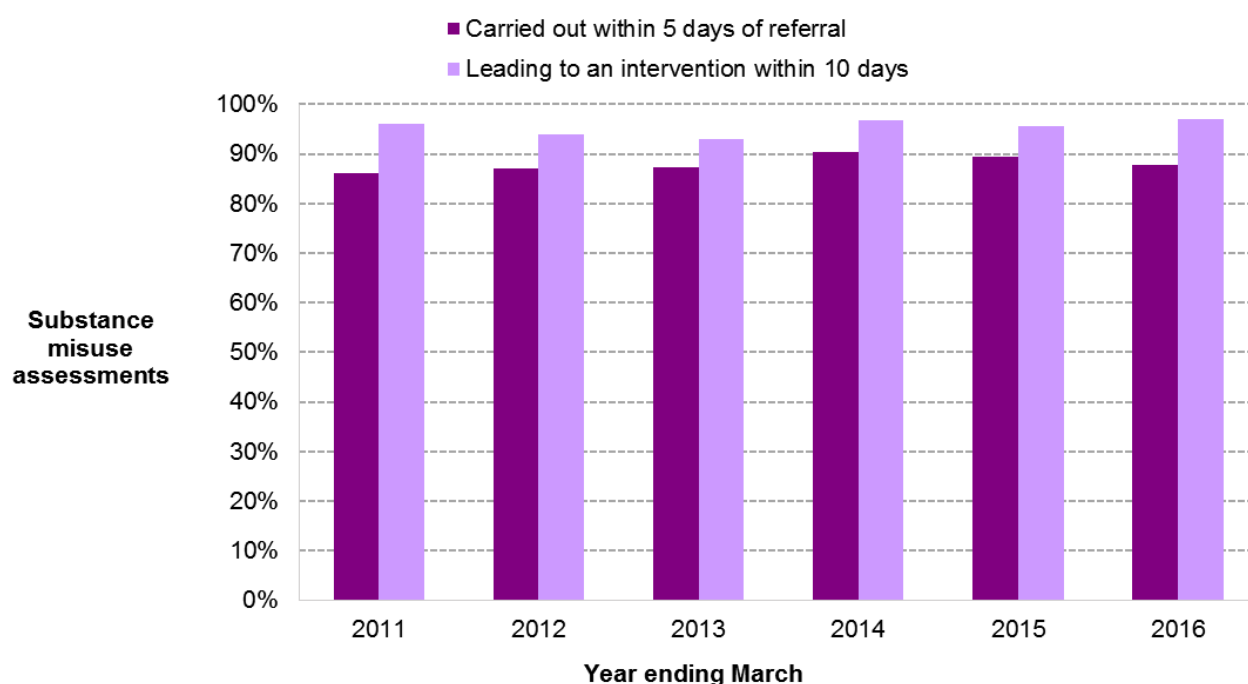


Access to substance misuse services for young people in the Youth Justice System:

This indicator covers the timeliness of assessments for young people with potential substance misuse needs in Wales. Initial assessments should be conducted within five working days of a referral, and interventions should be started within 10 working days of their assessment.

- In the year ending March 2016, 88% of assessments were conducted within five working days of referral, which remains relatively consistent with the year ending March 2015 when 90% of assessments were conducted within five working days of referral.
- The proportion of young people with substance misuse needs that started interventions within 10 working days of their assessment was 97% in the year ending March 2016, which is relatively unchanged from 96% for the year ending March 2015.

Figure A.2: Substance misuse assessments for young people in Wales, years ending March 2011 to March 2016



Access to suitable accommodation for young people in the Youth Justice System:

This indicator measures the change in the percentage of young people in Wales who were in suitable accommodation at the end of their order, compared with the start of their order.

- The percentage of young people who were in suitable accommodation at the start of their order¹¹¹ in the year ending March 2016 was 95.4%. This decreased to 94.4% at the end of their disposal. These figures remain relatively unchanged compared with the year ending March 2015.
- In the year ending March 2016, for young people on a custodial sentence, 87.5% were assessed as having suitable accommodation prior to their sentence. At the end of their sentence this increased to 92.5% who were assessed as having suitable accommodation. This represents a five percentage point increase.

¹¹¹ Relevant orders in this case are referral orders, reparation orders, Youth Rehabilitation Orders and custodial sentences.

Annex B: Resources in Youth Offending Teams

Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) work with young people who are in the Youth Justice System or who are on programmes that serve to prevent young people offending for the first time or behaving anti-socially. Most of the YOT caseload comprises young people aged 10 to 17 years; however some 18 year olds who start their disposals before their 18th birthday may also still be engaged with the YOT.

YOTs are multi-agency teams made up of representatives from police, probation, education, health and social services, and specialist workers, such as accommodation officers and substance misuse workers.

YOTs are mostly coterminous with local authorities in England and Wales; however there are some exceptions where a single YOT covers two or more local authorities. At the end of March 2016, there were 153 YOTs; 138 in England and 15 in Wales. The composition of YOTs is changing over time; these numbers have changed since the year ending March 2012 and may change again in the future.

From the year ending March 2012 the YOT grant from the Youth Justice Board (YJB) became one single grant with no ring-fenced amounts for designated strands of work. From the year ending March 2015 the YJB YOT grant again contained amounts designated for specific purposes – for example the Restorative Justice Development Grant.

From the year ending March 2015 Police funding was reported differently: The funding stream from the local Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) office was reported separately from other Police funding.

The funding figures below are based on data submitted to the YJB from Youth Offending Teams, with the exception of the YJB grant which is taken from the YJB's own figures.

Overall YOT funding over time

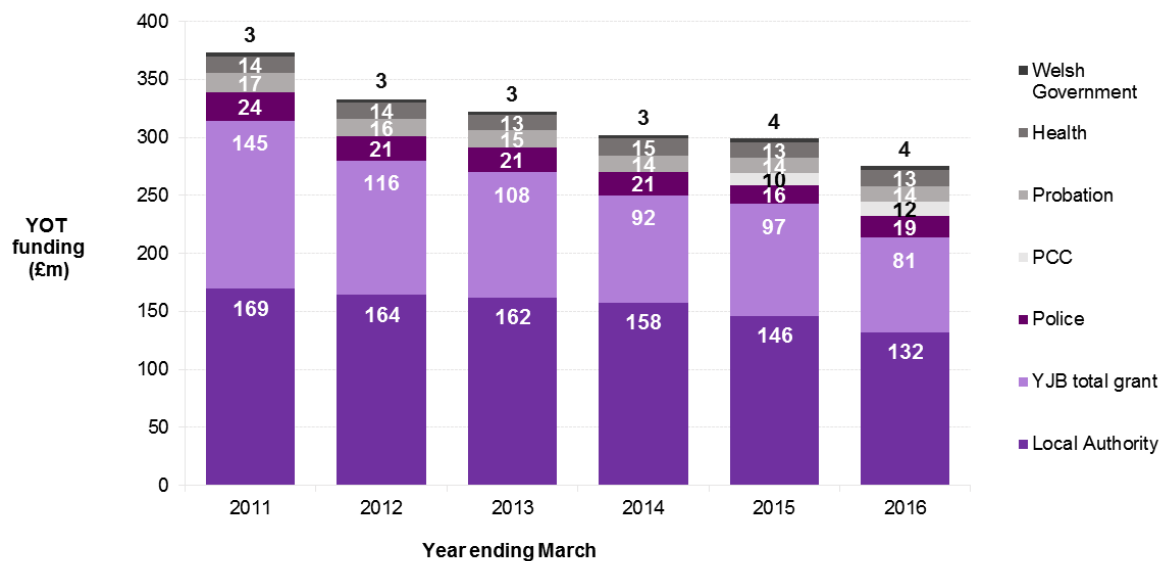
Overall YOT funding levels have continued to fall over the last five years. Between the years ending March 2015 and March 2016 there was a reduction in the overall level of funding available to YOTs from £299m to £275m, a reduction of 8%. Compared to the previous five years, this is the lowest level of funding YOTs have received.

The changes in funding to YOTs since the year ending March 2015 varied widely across the different statutory partners as summarised below.

- The YJB total grant decreased by 16%.
- Total Police funding, including from the local PCC, increased by 17%.
- Probation funding increased by 2%.

- Health services funding increased by 3%.
- Local Authority (including education and social services) funding decreased by 10%.
- The Welsh Government Grant increased by 2%.

Figure B.1: Total YOT funding, years ending March 2011 to March 2016

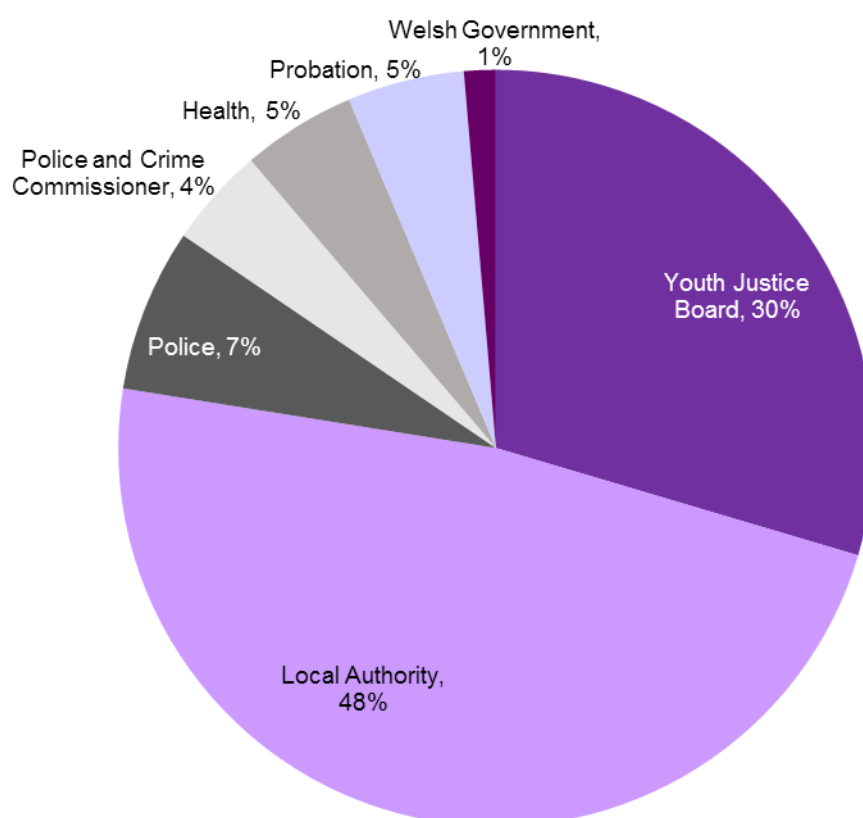


Funding of YOTs in the year ending March 2016

The YJB grant on average makes up about a third of funding to YOTs, although this figure varies by YOT. The remaining funding comes from Partnership Agencies who work with YOTs to support young people in, or at risk of entering, the Youth Justice System.

In terms of partnership funding, Local Authority services contributed almost half (48%) of the total supplied by statutory agencies other than the YJB. The police provided 11% (4% coming from the PCC and 7% from other police funding streams) while health and probation contributed 5% each. The Welsh Government provided additional funding to YOTs in Wales, accounting for 18% of all funding to YOTs in Wales.

Figure B.2: Funding of YOTs in the year ending March 2016



YOT workforce

Between 30 June 2014 and 30 June 2015 the number of people working in YOTs fell (and has done in every year since 30 June 2010). As of 30 June 2015, 12,100 people were recorded as working for YOTs in some capacity. These figures include volunteers, part-time and temporary staff and so are not measures of the full-time equivalent workforce.

YOT staffing numbers vary from less than 20 to over 350. The majority (57%) have between 40 and 80 personnel and only four have more than 200 members of staff.

This section presents information on the total number of staff across all YOTs, broken down by contract status, gender and ethnicity.

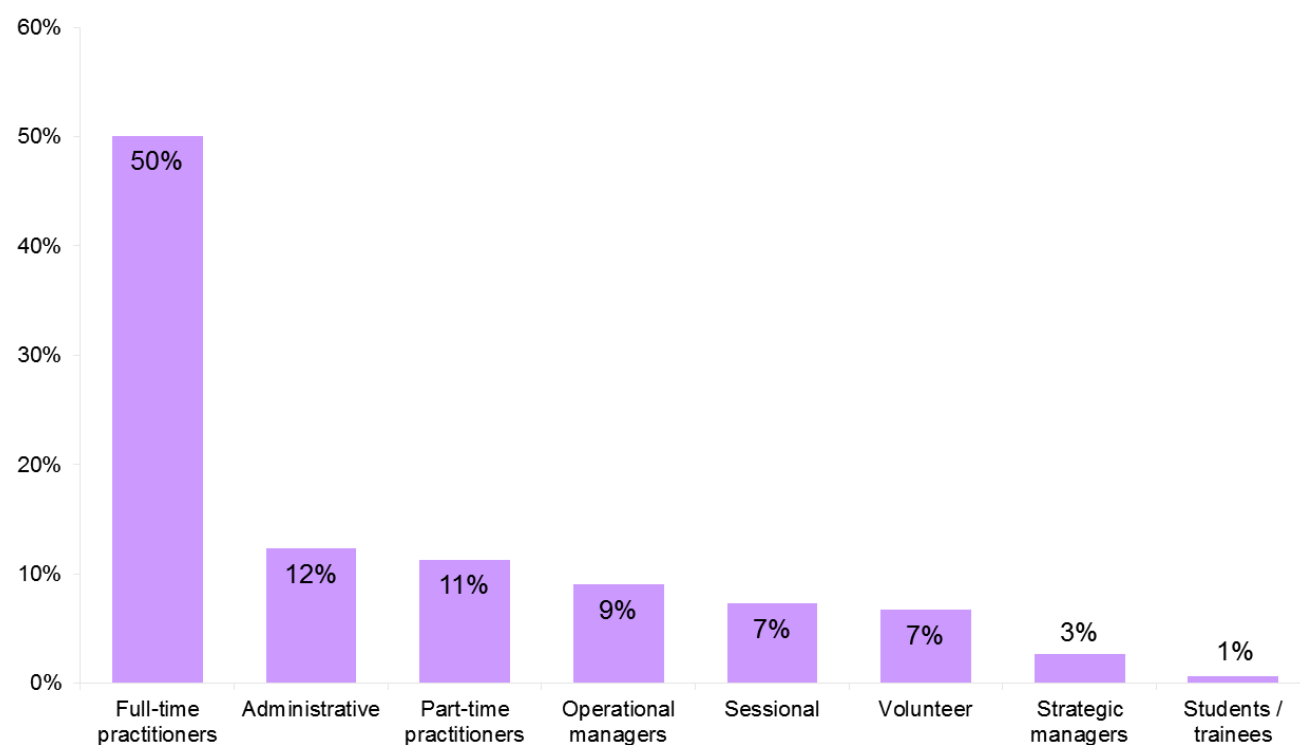
From 30 June 2012 the data recording methodology was changed for staffing figures by contract status. In previous years headcount was used both for numbers broken down by contract status and broken down by gender and ethnicity. Starting in June 2012 the figures broken down by contract type were recorded as full-time equivalents and as a result, the totals recorded under contract type from 30 June 2012 onwards are not comparable to previous years. The totals broken down by contract status are also not comparable to those recorded under gender and ethnicity as these are still recorded as headcount.

The full-time equivalent numbers on 30 June 2015 were 4,900 practitioners (18% of these full-time equivalent days were made up of part-time staff), 710 operational managers and 210 strategic managers. The corresponding figures for sessional workers and volunteers were 580 and 530 respectively.

Over two-thirds (69%) of the staff were female and 78% classed themselves as being from a White ethnic background. Overall the staffing headcount in all YOTs has reduced by 6% since 30 June 2014 and 35% since 30 June 2010.

Comparison with the full-time equivalent figures for 30 June 2014 shows that while the staffing levels in YOTs have fallen for all categories except part-time practitioners and volunteers, the proportions of staff in each category have remained approximately the same.

Figure B.3: YOT workforce, as of 30 June 2015



Annex C: Levels of crime experienced by young people

The Crime Survey for England and Wales (formerly the British Crime Survey) asks people aged 16 and over living in households in England and Wales about their experiences of crime in the last 12 months. These experiences are used to estimate levels of crime in England and Wales. There were an estimated 6.3 million instances of crime against households and resident adults (aged 16 and over) in England and Wales for the year ending March 2016. This represents a 6% decrease compared with the previous year's survey.

In 2009, the Crime Survey for England and Wales was extended to young people aged 10-15 (those aged 16 and 17 are included in the main survey). The primary objective of extending the survey was to provide estimates of the levels of crime experienced by young people and their risk of victimisation.

In addition to questions about experience of crime, the survey also gathered information on a number of crime-related topics such as experience and attitudes towards the police, personal safety, being in public spaces and access to leisure facilities.

Key findings from the survey are available in the main publication at www.crimesurvey.co.uk/

In the year ending March 2016, there were an estimated 844,000 crimes experienced by young people aged 10-15 years¹¹². Of these:

- 49% were categorised as violent crimes (418,000);
- 32% were theft offences (274,000);¹¹³
- 13% were criminal damage to personal property (111,000);
- 5% were robbery offences (42,000).

¹¹² Children are often involved in low-level incidents which may involve an offence in law but may not be viewed by participants, or others, as serious enough to amount to a crime. Two methods for classifying incidents recorded in the survey have been used – 'preferred' and 'broad'. The 'Preferred measure' takes into account factors identified as important in determining the severity of an incidence (such as level of injury, value of item stolen or damaged, relationship with the perpetrator) while the 'Broad measure' counts all incidents which would be legally defined as crimes and therefore may include low-level incidents between young people. The analysis provided here uses the 'preferred' measure.

¹¹³ For the children's survey, property offences are restricted to personal level crimes only. Any household theft or criminal damage to the house/vehicle is recorded when the adult respondents from the household complete the survey themselves. Three offences from the children's data – theft from or outside the dwelling, bicycle theft, and criminal damage to personal property – are all designated as household offences for the adults' survey. In the children's data, these are included if the property stolen or damaged belonged solely to the child respondent.

Table C1 shows the estimated number of incidents and the estimated percentage of young people aged 10-15 experiencing crime. An estimated 13% of 10-15 year olds were victims of crime in the year ending March 2016. Of these, 6% had been a victim of one or more incidents of violent crime and similarly, 6% had been a victim of one or more incidents of theft offences.

Table C1: Offences experienced by young people aged 10-15 in the Crime Survey for England and Wales, years ending March 2011 to March 2016

Measure	Year ending March					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of young people aged 10-15 in the unweighted sample	3,849	3,930	2,879	2,933	2,374	2,804
Estimated number of incidents (thousands)	918	1,066	817	797	718	844
Estimated percentage who were victims of one incident or more	11.6%	15.1%	12.2%	12.1%	11.8%	12.7%
Estimated percentage who were a victim of a violent offence	6.2%	6.4%	5.2%	5.9%	5.2%	5.8%
Estimated percentage who were a victim of a theft offence	5.4%	8.1%	6.5%	6.2%	5.9%	5.8%

Source: Crime Survey for England and Wales, ONS

Of the estimated 418,000 violent incidents experienced by young people aged 10-15, 76% resulted in injury to the young person. Around 6% of young people aged 10-15 had experienced one or more incidents of violent crime in the last year; and 4% had experienced one or more incidents of violence with injury. Less than 1% of young people aged 10-15 were victims of robbery in the last year.

There were an estimated 274,000 incidents of theft offences and 111,000 incidents of criminal damage of personal property experienced by young people aged 10-15 in the year ending March 2016. Of the theft offences, 65% were classified as 'other theft of personal property' (179,000 incidents) which included thefts of property left unattended. Around 6% of young people aged 10-15 had experienced one or more incidents of theft offences in the last year, with 'other theft of personal property' the most commonly experienced type of theft (around 4%).

Annex D: Average time from offence to completion

The criminal court timeliness measure is an estimated average of the time criminal cases spend in the Criminal Justice System, across both magistrates' and Crown tiers of criminal court. In addition to the mean,¹¹⁴ the median¹¹⁵ is also shown, as the mean can sometimes be skewed by extreme values.

The statistics in the supplementary volumes measure the overall duration in days from offence to completion in the criminal courts, including intermediate stages in that process. 'Time from offence to completion' refers to the time taken between the date an offence is committed and the date of verdict/acquittal of the defendant's case, in either magistrates' courts or the Crown Court. For defendants whose case is sent to the Crown Court, these statistics measure the entire duration from offence to completion in the Crown Court, including the time the case was initially dealt with in the magistrates' courts before being passed to the Crown Court.

All timeliness figures in this Annex are based on new timeliness methodology which include cases with an offence to completion duration of over 10 years. See the Explanatory Notes for more information.

In the year ending March 2016, for all completed youth criminal cases¹¹⁶, the average number of days from the time that the offence took place until the case was completed (and a final decision was made) was 130 days (the median was 94 days). This is an increase on 125 days (median 88 days) in the previous year and continues the upward trend.

There were increases in the average amount of time from the offence to the time that the young person was charged at the police station, and also from the charge to the first listing of the case in a magistrate's court.

Table D.3 in the supplementary volumes show the average (mean and median) waiting times from offence to completion, for youth arrest¹¹⁷ completed criminal cases. For these cases, in the year ending March 2016, the average time from offence to completion was 104 days (the median was 69 days). This is an increase from the average of 101 days (median 66 days) in the year ending March 2015.

The average time from offence to completion consists of the following processes:

- Average time from offence to arrest - mean 17 days, median 0 days;
- Average time from arrest to charge - mean 24 days, median 1 day;
- Average time from charge to first listing - mean 20 days, median 16 days;
- Average time from first listing to completion - mean 44 days, median 21 days.

¹¹⁴ The mean is the total time for all the relevant criminal cases, divided by the number of cases.

¹¹⁵ The median is the middle value for the relevant criminal cases, that is the time value where half of the cases have a shorter time and half have a longer one.

¹¹⁶ In magistrates' courts and the Crown Court.

¹¹⁷ Where a youth panel sat and the date of arrest is known.

There is variability in the average time from offence to completion by offence group. Sexual offences have the longest average times from offence to completion (mean of 482 days, median of 303 days). Possession of weapon offences have the shortest average times from offence to completion (mean of 80 days, median of 53 days).

When examined by ethnicity, those who are from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic group have a higher average time from offence to completion than for those who are White (mainly at the first listing to completion stage).

Annex E: Sources used for each chapter

The table below shows which data sources are used for each chapter of the report and the quality of the data.

Name	Owner	Description	Quality Status	Use in YJ Stats year ending March 2016
Police National Computer (PNC)	MoJ	The Police National Computer (PNC) is the police's administrative IT system used by all police forces in England and Wales and managed by the Home Office. The PNC largely covers recordable offences – these are all indictable and triable-either-way offences plus many of the more serious summary offences. Information regarding the proven re-offending behaviour of offenders and criminal histories of offenders has been compiled using the Ministry of Justice's extract from the Police National Computer (PNC). The quality of the information recorded on the PNC is generally assumed to be relatively high as it is an operational system on which the police depend, but analysis can reveal errors that are typical when handling administrative datasets of this scale.	National Statistics	Chapters 1, 2, 9, 10 and 11
Courts	MoJ	Statistics on prosecutions, convictions and sentencing are either derived from the LIBRA case management system, which holds the magistrates' courts records, or the Crown Court's CREST system which holds the trial and sentencing data. The data includes offences where there has been no police involvement, such as those prosecutions instigated by government departments, private organisations and individuals. From July 1995 all Crown Court data on trials and sentences has been received directly from the Court Service's CREST computer system and from November 2008 all magistrates' courts data has been provided by the LIBRA case management system. All data is subject to a variety of validation checks prior to publication	National Statistics	Chapters 5, 6 and 11
Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF)	YJB	This system contains case level data on young people cautioned or convicted of an offence. Prior to year ending March 2010 only summary level data was submitted to the YJB via Youth Offending Teams. Data is submitted on a quarterly basis.	Admin System	Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6 and used for the local level data
eAsset / SACHS	YJB	Data for year ending March 2013 onwards for under 18 year olds for Secure Children's Homes (SCHs), Secure Training Centres (STCs), and Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) comes from the YJB's eAsset database. Data for 18 year old females in SCHs and STCs also comes from eAsset and data for 18 year old males in YOIs comes from NOMS. Data is based on monthly snapshots of the youth secure estate, taken on the last Friday of the month or first Friday of the following month, depending on which is nearer to the actual month end. Data prior to year ending March 2013 comes from the YJB's Secure Accommodation Clearing House System (SACHS) database.	Admin System	Chapters 6 and 7

Behaviour management	YJB	The Behaviour Management data are taken from monthly data returns from establishments to the YJB. In some cases the total figures for age, gender and ethnicity may not add up to the same figures due to recording issues. These small variations will not make any difference to the overall rates.	Admin System	Chapter 8
Deaths in custody and number of safeguarding and public protection incidents	YJB	Data on deaths in custody (YOIs, STCs and SCHs) and public protection incidents are based on information reported to the YJB.	Admin System	Executive Summary
Use of force under the Managing and Minimising Physical Restraint (MMPR) system	YJB	MMPR is a behaviour management and restraint system that has been developed specifically for staff working with young people in STCs and under-18 YOIs. All secure establishments currently report restraint incidents against the definition of RPI and this will continue. However, under MMPR, establishments are also required to report more detailed data on all uses of force, irrespective of whether they meet the RPI definition or not. This includes the use of MMPR techniques and any use of force that is not an MMPR technique.	Admin system	Chapter 8
Arrests	Home Office	The arrests figures relate to arrests for notifiable offences only, which form the basis of recorded crime statistics. The data presented are drawn from returns from the 43 local police forces in England and Wales, and cover trends in arrest rates in England and Wales, as well as breakdowns by offence group, gender and self-defined ethnicity. Figures on arrests reported to the Home Office reflect police activity and should not be used to infer levels of crime committed by offenders, or their specific characteristics.	National Statistics	Chapter 1
Mid-year estimates	ONS	Mid 2015 population estimates are available at national level by single year of age and sex and sub nationally (local authority/health area) by five year age group and sex. These include additional selected age groups and broad components of population change. The population estimates reflect the local authority administrative boundaries that were in place on 30 June of the reference year of the tables.	National Statistics	Chapter 1 and 2
Adults in custody	MoJ	Key statistics relating to offenders who are in prison or under the National Probation Service's supervision. It covers flows into these services (receptions into prison or probation starts) and flows out (discharges from prison or probation terminations) as well as the caseload of both services at specific points in time.	National Statistics	Chapter 11
Average number of days from offence to completion	MoJ	The criminal court timeliness measure is an estimated average of the time criminal cases spend in the CJS, across both magistrates' and Crown tiers of criminal court. These statistics are sourced from the administrative data systems used in the magistrates' courts and Crown Court, and are produced by linking records (the Libra Management Information Timeliness Analysis Report and CREST linked court data, HMCTS). Records are linked based on a combination of variables including given name, middle name, family name, date of birth, sex, postcode, a committal date, and two identifiers: the Arrest/Summons Number (ASN) and Pre-Trials Issue Unique Reference Number (PTIURN).	National Statistics	Executive Summary, Annex D